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# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030  
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1995

## New-graduate hiring to rise, survey says

### Highlights of the survey

- Employers expect to hire 4.7 percent more college graduates this year.
- Hot majors include business management, health professions, engineering, science fields and computer science.
- Best pay will go to chemical engineers, \$41,182; mechanical engineers, \$37,265; electrical engineers, \$36,706; industrial engineers, \$35,695; and computer science majors, \$34,462.
- Demand will be highest in the Southeast, where 75 percent of employers reported at least medium job-availability levels, followed by north-central, 74 percent; south-central, 68 percent; Southwest, 58 percent; Northeast, 54 percent; and Northwest, 48 percent.
- 22 percent of employers use the Internet to list job openings or recruit.

By JUDY DAUBENMIER

ASSOCIATED PRESS

LANSING, Mich. — New college graduates will find it slightly easier to turn their degrees into paychecks next spring, especially if they have an internship on their resume, a hiring survey to be released today shows.

The survey, by Michigan State University, projects a 4.7 percent increase in the number of new college graduates who can expect to get jobs, the third consecutive annual improvement.

"It remains a very competitive job market out there so the graduates by no means will find it easy hunting," said Patrick Scheetz, the survey author. "It is a modest improvement."

Scheetz, director of the Colle-

giate Employment Research Institute at the school, also said starting salaries offered to new college graduates will inch up only about half a percent compared with last year, he said.

Scheetz said that despite the projected increase, hiring still will be below the levels of 1988-89.

"There has been so much downsizing and re-engineering going on that many of the opportunities that once existed have disappeared," he said.

Federal agencies expecting tighter budgets are cutting staffing levels substantially while private employers are cautious about expanding too much, he said.

"The employers are all looking out of the corner of their eye at the economy."

The survey of 527 businesses, industries and governmental agencies showed that chances of landing a job improved if the candidate had career-related experience, such as an internship.

Those surveyed said 48 percent of last spring's new hires had such experience.

Besides that, Scheetz said, businesses are looking for applicants with drive, enthusiasm and initiative, who are quick learners, independent thinkers and open-minded.

They also want applicants who know their way around a computer keyboard, work well as part of a group, have strong organizational skills and are respectful of other cultures.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • NATION / WORLD • MONDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1995

## Job hunt is easing for grads, study says

By JUDY DAUBENMIER  
Associated Press

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"It remains a very competitive job market out there so the graduates by no means will find it easy hunting," said Patrick Scheetz, the survey author. "It is a modest improvement."

Scheetz, director of the Collegiate Employment Research Institute at the school, also said the best job prospects are for engineers, computer scientists, business majors, health professionals and science majors.

Starting salaries offered to new college graduates will inch up only about half a percent compared to last year, he said.

Chemical engineers will draw the biggest pay — \$41,183 — while journalists will be offered the lowest starting salaries — \$20,154.

Scheetz said despite the projected increase, hiring still will be below the levels of 1988-89. Prospects are brightest in the nation's southeastern and north-central regions.

"There has been so much downsizing and re-engineering going on that many of the opportunities that once existed have disappeared," he said.

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The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Thursday, November 30, 1995.

### College gets \$1 million gift

PIKEVILLE — Pikeville College got a \$1 million thirst-quencher Wednesday.

Lexington businessman John DuPuy Jr. pledged 20,000 shares of PepsiCo stock to the college. The money is for endowed scholarships for students from Pike, Floyd, Breathitt, Elliott, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan and Perry counties.

College spokeswoman Gerri Kinder said DuPuy's is the largest gift from an individual in the college's 106 years.

DuPuy's father was a founder of Pikeville-based East Kentucky Beverage Co., one of the state's largest Pepsi distributors. DuPuy is a 1938 Pikeville College graduate.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY.

■ THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1995

### GEORGETOWN

#### College gets \$750,000 computer grant:

Georgetown College has received a \$750,000 grant from the James Graham Brown Foundation of Louisville to create a campus computer network. The project will include installation of more than 49 miles of fiber-optic cable in and among 31 buildings. The network also will be part of the college's preparation for building its new Learning Resource Center, President William Crouch said.

"I just wanted to share with those who have helped to make the family business so successful," said DuPuy, a past president of the Pikeville firm.

The college will receive 2,000 shares a year for 10 years. The stock closed Wednesday on the New York Stock Exchange at \$54.75 a share.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL  
• THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1995

### Mountains get scholarship help

PIKEVILLE — An Eastern Kentucky college got a \$1 million gift yesterday.

Lexington businessman John DuPuy Jr. pledged 20,000 shares of PepsiCo stock to Pikeville College for endowed scholarships for students from Pike, Floyd, Breathitt, Elliott, Johnson, Knott, Lawrence, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Martin, Morgan and Perry counties.

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The college will receive 2,000

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LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1995

## UK will give health training at Morehead

### Nurse practitioners, physician assistants could fill state's rural primary-care gap

BY SCOTT LEARN

NORTHEASTERN KENTUCKY BUREAU

MOREHEAD — University of Kentucky faculty soon will provide training at Morehead State University for students who want to be nurse practitioners and physician assistants, officials announced yesterday.

The new training programs — the first outside Lexington and Louisville — should help boost basic medical care in Eastern Kentucky, the programs' sponsors said.

"Our hope is that, when they complete their training, they will stay here," Dr. James Holsinger, chancellor of UK's Chandler Medical Center, said at a Morehead news conference.

Studies indicate much of Eastern Kentucky has a shortage of primary-care doctors to provide basic treatment.

Nurse practitioners and physician assistants can help fill that gap by taking some of the load off doctors, Holsinger said. They perform basic care, such as filling out medical histories, setting broken bones and giving physical exams.

Nurse practitioners, who have master's degrees, also help educate patients and their families.

Morehead State's nurse practitioner program will begin in January with an expected enrollment of eight students. UK faculty members will travel to Morehead State and also teach from Lexington through video hook-ups.

St. Claire Medical Center and the Northeast Area Health Education Center will provide laboratory space and clinical training for the students.

The physician assistant program, including some instruction from Morehead State faculty members, will begin in August with eight to 10 students enrolled.

The first-year cost of the programs is estimated at \$480,000.

Officials hope to double enrollment in both programs eventually, and perhaps add training for midwife nurse practitioners, who care for pregnant women.

At that level, the programs would cost \$800,000 a year.

Money for both projects is coming in part from interest on an indigent-care fund established this year when UK's medical center received \$22 million in Medicaid matching funds.

The indigent-care program is designed to help Kentuckians who

lack health insurance and don't get public assistance. It is also the financing source for a new medical clinic that UK plans to open on Lexington's north side.

A \$663,000 three-year federal grant will also help establish the Morehead nurse practitioner program. After the startup phase, the universities probably will ask the state legislature to help with financing, Holsinger said.

UK is seeking approval from the Council on Higher Education for similar programs in Paducah to serve Western Kentucky. The university graduates about 80 physician assistants and nurse practitioners in Lexington each year.

David Bolt, a vice president at St. Claire Medical Center, said he expects demand to be high for graduates of the Morehead State programs.

Hospitals and clinics throughout Eastern Kentucky need more help, Bolt said.

"We don't think there will be any problem placing people in this immediate area and in the rest of Eastern Kentucky," he said.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • KENTUCKY / REGION • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, 1995

## More study wanted on merging college, vocational programs

By RICHARD WILSON  
Staff Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Few higher-education issues in Kentucky have been studied as much in the past 25 years as the issue of merging community colleges and vocational schools.

Yesterday, a task force recommended that it be studied some more.

In its final report, the Task Force on Higher Education — a group made up mostly of university presidents and legislators — rejected without debate its staff's recommendation to combine the two programs under one organization. Currently the 14 community colleges are administered by the University of Kentucky and the vocational schools by the Workforce Development Cabinet.

The task force said the issue should be studied for the next two years.

House Speaker Jody Richards, the task force's co-chairman, said he did not know why the defeated proposal

place. "It wasn't the choice of the committee, so they removed it," said Richards, a Bowling Green Democrat who proposed creating the task force earlier this year.

But the issue may not be dead. House Education Committee Chairman Freed Curd, D-Murray, said after the meeting he may still introduce legislation for the 1996 General Assembly session to merge the two-year colleges and vocational schools under a new governing board.

"It's early to be deciding things like that. I'm considering several options," Curd said.

UK President Charles Wethington Jr. said the task force's action was merely "a wording change (in preliminary recommendations) that needed to be corrected, and was able to be corrected." Wethington, who headed the community colleges before becoming UK's president in 1990, said he welcomed the study.

UK has headed off previous efforts

to merge the two systems. The 14 community colleges, which, when combined with its agricultural cooperative extension service and cadre of influential statewide alumni, give it more political clout than any other state university. It has been readying itself for another battle and expects to release a public opinion survey soon that shows most Kentuckians favor keeping the schools under UK.

Richards denied that the task force sidestepped another potentially-controversial issue, strengthening the Council on Higher Education's coordinating powers over state universities. Several lawmakers, and both candidates in this year's governors race, have suggested that move.

He noted that the task force's recommendations say the council already has more authority than it uses. "What we decided, whether this is right or wrong, was that the council should exercise its authority more,"

See ANOTHER

Continued from Page B1

Richards said.

Gary Cox, executive director of the council, said later that his agency has been more aggressive lately. "But we don't have the authority to move as quickly, or as far, as some critics would like," Cox added.

Richards, a former Western Kentucky University staff member, said proposals for additional funding for the universities was the task force's major focus.

One of the panel's 12 recommendations supports the council's proposal for an 8.4 percent increase in state funding for the universities in 1996-97 and a 9.8 percent increase in 1997-98. It said that funding level is necessary to make up for inadequate support in the past and to keep the schools competitive.

"I think there's enough money (from state revenue) to do some more for higher education. I don't know whether we can do all of this. Nobody knows that," Richards said.

Several of the task force members said the report focused attention on

## THE RECOMMENDATIONS

Among other things, the Task Force on Higher Education recommended yesterday that:

- ✓ The Council on Higher Education be "more diligent" in ensuring there is no needless duplication in programs at community colleges and universities.
- ✓ The General Assembly allocate adequate money to pay for deferred maintenance at universities.
- ✓ A portion of state funding to universities continue to be based on their performance, productivity and efficiency.
- ✓ Tuition for state university and community college students be kept as low as possible and student financial aid be sufficiently available.
- ✓ Faculty members become more involved in advising and counseling students, and those activities be considered when awarding promotion, tenure and merit-pay increases.
- ✓ The state's colleges and universities and public schools collaborate to show parents and students the social and economic benefits of higher education.
- ✓ The legislature provide money for colleges and universities to obtain the same level of technological sophistication now available in elementary and secondary schools.
- ✓ Teacher education programs at universities reflect goals of the Kentucky Education Reform Act, and a competitive fund be created to finance interaction between college faculty and teachers in their classrooms.

problems in higher education and proposed reasonable help for the campuses.

"There are several positive recom-

mendations in here giving advice to higher education that I believe would be good for all of us," Wethington said.

The rest of the panel went along, agreeing to suggest studying the issue instead of outright merging.

In fact, no one would even take credit for the suggestion.

House Speaker Jody Richards, who was chairman of the task force, said he didn't know how the recommendation to take action instead of doing a study ended up in the final report.

"I don't know the answer to that. It was a staff recommendation," he said. "It was not the choice of the committee to leave it in, so they removed it."

Prestonsburg Community College President Deborah Floyd made the motion to change the report to suggest studying a merger instead of calling for one. It passed unanimously.

The issue of possibly merging the community colleges and the state's post-secondary vocational schools has received increased attention from lawmakers who say they are concerned about possible duplication and lack of coordination between the systems.

The 14 community colleges are run by the University of Kentucky, while the

state Workforce Development Cabinet controls the vocational schools.

But the issue of a merger, or of taking the community colleges away from UK, is a potent political issue every time it comes up, which is often.

It might come up again in the next legislative session. Rep. Freed Curd said he is still considering whether to file legislation calling for a merger between the two systems.

Curd, the chairman of the House Education Committee, denied that he submitted the merger recommendation to the task force.

"Everybody looked at me like it was mine, but it wasn't," said Curd, D-Murray.

The mini-debate over the future of the 14 community colleges was the only unexpected element in the final report of the task force, which began meeting this summer.

As expected, the report endorses the Council on Higher Education's request for budget increases for the state's public colleges of 8.4 percent in 1996-97 and 9.8 percent in 1997-98.

"Kentucky is moving in the wrong direction in funding higher education," Richards said. "I think we brought that issue to the forefront."

Richards said he couldn't say

whether other lawmakers would agree with the task force's budget recommendation.

"I think there's enough money to do more for higher education," he said. "I don't know if we can do it all."

The report also calls for the council "to exercise its existing authority in a more aggressive and timely manner" — a sentiment voiced repeatedly in the last few months by legislators.

It cited the statutes that apply to the council, but also suggested that the General Assembly write a "statement of legislative intent" about the council's responsibilities.

The report also endorsed a council decision last month to impose a moratorium on any college's plans for new off-campus expansion until it studies its policy for

such centers.

Gary Cox, the council's executive director, said he was pleased the task force agreed with the moratorium. He also defended the council, saying it had moved aggressively on several subjects fall.

But he said the council's current guidelines don't always provide it with the authority it needs. For instance, it had no legal power over UK's recent plan to take over Lees College, he said.

Council chairman Jim Mays also questioned the report's conclusion, although he said he was willing to hear legislators' suggestions for the council.

"I don't believe the expectations of the council and the authority given to it under the statutes make up," he said.

# Panel backs off vo-tech merger

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

FRANKFORT — It took a legislative task force studying higher education only five minutes yesterday to hastily abandon one of the biggest recommendations in its final report.

The report called for the General Assembly to start legislation to merge the community college system and the state's post-secondary vocational school.

Not so fast, said the task force, which included the president of the University of Kentucky — which runs the community colleges — and a community college president.

The rest of the panel went along, agreeing to suggest studying the issue instead of outright merging.

In fact, no one would even take credit for the suggestion.

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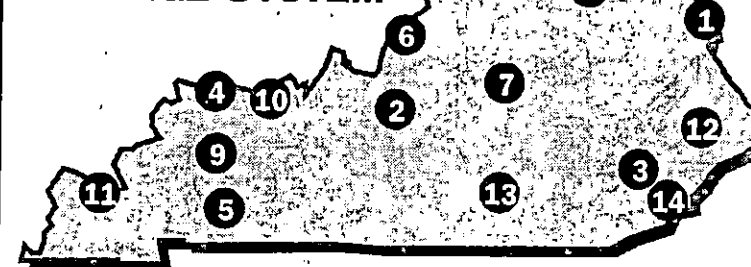
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## THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM



- |                              |                               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. Ashland CC                | 8. Maysville CC               |
| 2. Elizabethtown CC          | 9. Madisonville CC            |
| 3. Hazard CC                 | 10. Owensboro CC              |
| 4. Henderson CC              | 11. Paducah CC                |
| 5. Hopkinsville CC           | 12. Prestonsburg CC           |
| 6. Jefferson CC (Louisville) | 13. Somerset CC               |
| 7. Lexington CC              | 14. Southeast CC (Cumberland) |

HERALD-LEADER

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COMMUNITY ■ LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1995

## CAMPUS NEWSMAKERS

# Morehead percussion leader bests former music mentor

By DAVID GROSS

HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

**M**OREHEAD — Until last month, Robert Schietroma, an instructor and percussion director at Morehead State University during the 1960s and '70s, hadn't lost a national percussion competition in his 18 years at the University of North Texas.

And even then, he was able to find victory in defeat.

"I still felt like I had won," Schietroma said of losing to Morehead's percussion section, directed by Frank Oddis, one of Schietroma's former students.

"As a teacher, you're really proud of something like that, when your students can come back and be successful," Schietroma said.

Oddis was a student at Morehead during the early '70s and had classes under Schietroma, whom Oddis affectionately calls his mentor.

Oddis said he has put what he learned to use since 1977, when he replaced Schietroma as Morehead's percussion director. He has since directed the school's percussion sections to three national championships.

"A very valuable lesson I learned from him was programming for percussive ensembles," Oddis said.

"He always stressed the need to use some serious works but to also try some lighter works so the shows will be more entertaining for the audience."

Following his mentor's advice, Oddis includes everything from ethnic music to the theme song from "The Jetsons" cartoon series, which he said adds virtuosity and novelty to the ensemble performances.

### 'Friendly competition'

Although a national championship was at stake, Schietroma and Oddis agreed that the competition was much more friendly than fierce.

"We didn't go with the mindset of necessarily trying to beat other schools," Oddis said. "We just wanted to play our best. It just turned out that we won."

Schietroma's wife, Judy, also said that the driving force for the two friends was not defeating each other.

Her husband "felt there was no way he could have lost," she said. "Going against a former student, he was a winner either way."

Schietroma beat his former student in 1989, when North Texas won the national event and Morehead finished second.

North Texas, which is in Denton, has one of the largest collegiate percussion sections in the world, with close to 150 members, Oddis said. Morehead's section has only 45 members.

"That made it really sweet," Oddis said of this year's win. "It was kind of a David versus Goliath situation."

### A national reputation

Some might wonder how Morehead, a small school in a rural area, has been able to establish itself as a national percussion power.

Schietroma said the process started several years ago.

He said that when he came to Morehead in 1966, the percussion section had only three members. When he left in 1977, three dozen students played in the section.

"We started a tradition many years ago," Schietroma said. "With a lot of work, we were able to put Morehead on the (percussion) map."

Oddis, who has continued the strong tradition, acknowledged that Morehead's percussion section is somewhat hampered by the school's location, but in some ways, it has helped make the school's percussion section even better.

"To be honest, there is so little to do here, that we can get away with rehearsing more than schools in bigger, metropolitan areas," he said.

Oddis said Morehead's program is able to attract more musicians from outside Kentucky than from inside the state because of its graduates' reputations.

Some former Morehead graduates who now perform professionally include Pat Petrillo, who founded his own music school, The Groove Academy, in New Brunswick, N.J., and recently performed on the Patti LaBelle tour; and Rich Viano, who frequently plays at Epcot Center at Walt Disney World in Orlando, Fla.

Although Schietroma lives hundreds of miles away and hasn't visited Morehead in six years, he and Oddis keep in touch by calling and writing each other on a regular basis.

Oddis said he called his mentor almost weekly right after taking over at Morehead.

Busy schedules don't allow them to keep in touch nearly as much now, but Oddis said they still exchange Christmas cards each year.

He said he has a special message that will be included in his card to Schietroma this year: "I learned it all from you."



Schietroma



Oddis

### Repeat winners

Among the members of the Morehead State University marching percussion section that recently won the national competition, several were repeat winners from the 1992 championship section.

They are: Brian Love, Michelle Lewis, Shaan France, Mike Catalano, Mike Bell, Jason Kercheval, Jerome Huff and Jeremy Fogle.

# Still feisty Fick coaching improved team

By DAVE KOERNER  
Staff Writer

He still banters with reporters, fans and statisticians during games. Like the time at Middle Tennessee State when the scoreboard went down, and he pulled out a \$5 bill and hollered, "Let's start a collection."

He still is a model of spontaneity and enthusiasm. Like the time at Rupp Arena three years ago when he threw himself on the floor — flat on his back — and just days later won the first Dick Fick Award from the late Jim Valvano and ESPN for being that week's most demonstrative basketball coach.

But one thing has changed about Fick's Morehead State program as he brings his Eagles into Freedom Hall

for tonight's 7:38 EST tipoff against No. 23-ranked Louisville: His team is substantially better than it was when he arrived five years ago.

And especially since that 6-21 second season, when a writer (blush!) from the big city was assigned to do a story on Morehead after the team plummeted to last nationally in the Sagarin Ratings.

"I've always been enthusiastic, and if Jim Valvano thought that was interesting, then that's tremendous," Fick said. "But what I think is important is that we've gotten better."

Morehead finished 15-12 last year for its first winning record in four years, and it fell one victory short of its first Ohio Valley Conference title since 1984.

The Eagles are 3-1 this season, with

tonight's game the first of three huge tests this month. On the 16th, Morehead will visit No. 5 Kentucky and then will journey to No. 12 Iowa on the 23rd.

"Louisville presents the biggest challenge to date for us," Fick said. "Those three teams will send 8-10 players to the NBA and another 15-20 to the CBA and Europe. (Chris) Kingsbury of Iowa shoots it from Outer Mongolia."

So far, Morehead's averaging winning margin is 27 points, and it's scoring nearly 106 points a game.

But the Eagles' victories have come against two NAIA schools (Berea and Spalding) and one NCAA Division III program (Centre). In their only game against a Division I school, they lost 108-84 at Kent, which is picked to fin-

ish in the lower half of the Mid-American Conference.

Still, Fick says this team's pluses far outnumber its minuses.

For one thing, there's the talent level. He says his first recruiting class at Morehead would provide the eighth, ninth and 10th players on this season's team.

Then there's the enthusiasm.

"As a coach you're supposed to motivate them," he said. "But every now and then you want somebody to do something for you. Sometimes they go nuts. They even dunk the ball now. At one time we couldn't do that. That first year I didn't have to worry

about that rule of hanging on the rim."

Then there's leadership — from five or six players, "which really impresses me," Fick said.

One in particular is Mark Kinnaird, a guard from New Albany, Ind.

"I might start wearing earmuffs, he talks so much," Fick said. "He's a talking-leadership guy. I can't shut him up."

Then, of course, there's the three-point shooting, which has been the trademark of Fick's teams.

The Eagles are shooting only 44.8 percent from the field overall but have buried 42.1 percent of their three-point attempts. In fact, three players with 13 or more three-pointers are shooting better than 40 percent.

Doug Wyciskalla is the leader at 48.1 percent (13 of 27), followed by Kinnaird at 47.7 percent (21 of 44) and Mark Majick at 41.5, 17 of 41. Kinnaird is averaging 21 points and Majick 20 per game.

Against Centre, Morehead hit an OVC-record 18 three-pointers. And against Berea, the Eagles shot a league-record 39 three-pointers, making 15.

However, one shortcoming of this team is its post play, which is expected to improve later this month when 6-foot-7 John Humphrey becomes eligible.

A year ago the Eagles relied on forwards Tyrone Boardley and Johnnie Williams, who combined for 30 points and 13 rebounds a game and help establish Morehead as one of the OVC's top defensive teams.

## Performances

Here are some coming performances by Frank Oddis, percussion director at Morehead State University, and members of the school's award-winning percussion section.

Thursday: Some members of the percussion section will perform an orchestra concert at Baird Music Hall on the Morehead campus, 8 p.m.

Sunday: Frank Oddis and Brian Love, a member of the section, will perform in Maysville at the First Christian Church as part of a brass choir with community chorus, 7 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 1995 ■ LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, Ky. ■ COMMUNITY

## CAMPUS NEWSMAKERS

# Championship play for percussionists

Morehead State University's marching percussion members certainly have reason to toot their own horns — but they can't.

None of them has a horn. They play instruments such as xylophones, bongos, timpanis and marimbas. What these musicians do have is the overall championship they recently won at the National Marching Forum in Phoenix as the top marching percussion section in the nation.

This year's championship was Morehead's third in the last seven years. The section also won the competition in 1988 and 1992. In 1989, the section finished second.

(Because the location of the competition changes annually, not every school competes each year.)

## Standings

Here are the final standings for the participants in the national percussion competition:

1. Morehead State
2. University of North Texas
3. Oklahoma State University
4. Arizona State University
5. University of Nevada-Las Vegas
6. University of Arizona

"This really says a lot about our program," said Jason Kercheval, 21, a senior who also played when the section won the 1992 title. "It doesn't matter how large the school is or how much money they have, with hard work you can accomplish anything."

In addition to winning the overall championship, the section won awards for best bass drums and best pit (the front ensemble that consists of drums and keyboards and other electronic instruments).

The ensemble performed three works at the competition: the overture from *Candide* by Leonard Bernstein, "The Jetsons" cartoon theme song by Chris Sharpe and "On Fire" by Michelle Camillo.

— David Gross

## PROBABLE LINEUPS

Game time: 7:38 p.m. EST. Site: Freedom Hall. Favorite: No line. Television: WDRB-41; delayed at 10:30 p.m. Radio: WHAS-AM (840).

### Morehead State (3-1)

Pos.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Rb.	Pt.
F	Marlon Witherspoon	6-8	205	Sr.	11.3	14.5
F	Mark Majick	6-4	190	Sr.	3.0	20.0
C	Mike Scroggins	6-7	205	Jr.	4.3	8.5
G	Mark Kinnaird	5-11	170	Sr.	2.8	21.0
G	Doug Wyciskalla	6-2	190	Jr.	3.0	16.3

Reserves — Ted Docks, G, 5-8, Fr., 6.3; Luke Lloyd, C, 6-9, Fr., 6.3; Chris Stone, F, 6-7, So., 4.3; Cole Indestad, C, 6-8, Jr., 2.5; Ivan Colbert, G, 5-11, Sr., 1.8; Heston Beverly, G, 6-1, So., 1.8; Mark Spurlock, G, 5-10, Fr., 1.5; Kyle Sherman, G, 6-3, Fr., 0.7; Al Dixon, F, 6-4, Sr., 0.5.

### Louisville (3-2)

Pos.	Player	Ht.	Wt.	Cl.	Rb.	Pt.
F	Brian Kiser	6-7	205	Sr.	1.8	7.8
F	Alvin Sims	6-4	220	Jr.	4.6	16.4
C	Samaki Walker	6-9	240	So.	6.0	13.7
G	DeJuan Wheat	6-0	165	Jr.	5.0	17.0
G	Tick Rogers	6-5	205	Sr.	2.0	6.7

Reserves — Damion Dantzler, F, 6-7, So., 10.0; B.J. Flynn, G, 6-2, Jr., 4.8; Charlie Taylor, G, 5-9, Fr., 4.0; Beau Zach Smith, F, 6-8, Jr., 3.4; Matt Akridge, G, 6-2, So., 1.0; Craig Farmer, G, 6-5, So., 0.8; Robby Wine, F, 6-4, Sr., 0.0; Jimmy King, G, 6-1, Sr., 0.0; Micah Langston, G, 6-4, Fr., 0.0.

However, Morehead has gotten some strong front-line play, especially from Marlon Witherspoon, who is averaging 14.5 points and 11.3 rebounds.

"He's probably our most improved player," Fick said.

But the biggest improvement has come in the area of intangibles.

"The one thing I've had to teach here is not to be afraid of failure," Fick said. "You have to learn to beat the fear of failure, and as I've said, our teams are getting better."



# Ky. schools funding gap narrowing

## Report shows equity nearing among rich, poor districts

By Lucy May

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

FRANKFORT — The funding gap between rich and poor school districts is narrowing, meaning that Kentucky is making progress in dealing with the problem that led to school reform.

A report released yesterday by the Office of Education Accountability says that while the state has not completely closed the gap, Kentucky has made substantial progress.

"We're not ready to say we've achieved equity, but we're certainly very close," said Penny Sanders, director of the accountability office.

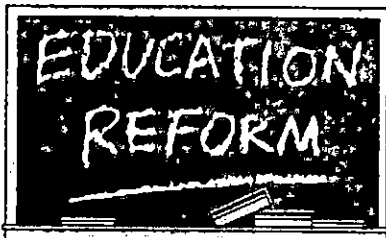
Sanders' comments came during a legislative committee's review of her office's annual report, a document that serves as a report card to the General Assembly on the status of education reform.

In a sweeping 1989 decision, the Kentucky Supreme Court demanded that the legislature close the funding gap between school districts with wealthy property tax bases and those with low property tax bases.

The court declared Kentucky's entire system of public education unconstitutional, a far broader ruling than the one requested by 66 "property poor" school districts that sued the General Assembly to try to close the funding gap. That court ruling led to the passage of the 1990 Kentucky Education Reform Act.

Sanders told members of the Special Subcommittee on Education Accountability that if the legislature were taken back to court over school finance, lawmakers could make a strong case that "significant strides" have been made.

The school reform law, known as KERA, set up a



A status report

### More findings

These are some of the other findings and recommendations in the Office of Education Accountability's annual report. Copies of the report can be obtained in January from the Office of Education Accountability in Frankfort:

- Parents need clearer information about the progress of their children in the ungraded primary program, which merged kindergarten through third grades. Too few teachers have been trained to use the Kentucky Early Learning Profile, a pupil progress report that relies on descriptions instead of letter grades.

- The state should push for all teachers in Kentucky to have their own computers. This would not only give teachers computer training but would also cause the computer to become an essential instructional tool.

- While the state has moved to resolve many concerns about the state testing system with its new testing contract, discussions must continue about the tests' high stakes and the technical quality of the tests themselves.

SOURCE: OFFICE OF EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY 1995 ANNUAL REPORT DISCUSSION DRAFT

system where poorer districts get more state money because they can't raise as much money through local property taxes.

"I consider that to be one of the cornerstones of the court case, and it quite often gets lost," said Sen. David Karem, D-Louisville, co-chairman of the special subcommittee and a strong proponent of KERA.

The report noted that the state's poorest school districts got \$3,357 per pupil in state funding last school year — \$1,985 per pupil more than school districts with the greatest property wealth. In 1989, that difference was only \$256, the report said.

Figures were not available for the 1994-95 school year. But in 1993-94, the state's poorest school districts spent an average of \$4,007 per pupil while the state's richest districts spent an average of \$4,529 per pupil.

The accountability office, an investigative arm of the legislature created by KERA, did recommend in its report that the state increase its basic school funding by 4 percent to 6 percent in each of the next two years to keep up with expected increases in national spending.

Overall, Sanders said, the state is making good progress with school reform. After the meeting, she said she would give the state a "distinguished" rating for its overall progress. "Distinguished" is the

highest mark students can get on the new state testing system created by KERA.

During her presentation, Sanders stressed the importance of increased teacher training, or professional development, during the coming years. Her agency's report even suggests adding days to the school year — anywhere from five to 10 of them — just for that purpose.

Similarly, the Kentucky Education Association, the state's largest teachers' union, will advocate during the 1996 General Assembly that the state add six days to the school year for teacher training.

Karem, who is also the Senate majority leader, said he thinks lawmakers would seriously consider adding teacher training days to the school year. "The issue is money," he said.

Each training day that's added to the school year would cost roughly \$8 million, according to state education department figures. Currently, the school year consists of 185 days, and 175 of those are instructional days for students.

Rep. Harry Moberly, D-Richmond and the House budget chief, said lawmakers will have to take a close look at the question of adding teacher training days to the school year.

"We've identified this as an important problem," he said, "but we've never really done anything about it."

# Some blacks question value of affirmative action

**Younger people who did not experience the strict segregation that their elders endured say that the policy renders the achievements of blacks questionable.**

BY DONNA ST. GEORGE  
KNIGHT-RIDDER WASHINGTON BUREAU



WASHINGTON — The way William Lewis figures it, his son Michael hasn't experienced the worst of racial discrimination.

What else could explain a black man in America having doubts about the need for affirmative action?

"I think a lot of people in their 20s don't know what it was like before," says Lewis, 50, a school-teacher in Louisiana.

Like most black Americans, William Lewis is a strong believer in affirmative action. In the same way that all Americans of a certain age are shaped by the Depression, he is shaped by memories of Jim Crow segregation — those days when blacks were excluded from decent jobs and good schools and even restaurants and hospitals.

Affirmative action opened doors for many blacks — at college, in careers, in small business — after two centuries of discrimination, Lewis points out.

But on this deeply felt and complicated question, the black community is not of one mind. And at least part of the dissension comes from a younger generation that has no firsthand experience with segregation.

"Twenty years ago, blacks would have by and large been unanimously supportive of affirmative action," says Tyrone Tillery, a civil rights historian at the University of Houston. "Now there are a lot more voices."

With affirmative action expected to emerge as a central issue in the 1996 presidential race and in numerous state legislatures, the public's view of the 30-year-old policy is coming into the spotlight.

"Most young blacks support affirmative action, but they support it less than their elders and that's largely because of the stigma attached to it," says Ronald Walters, a political scientist at Howard University in Washington.

Gwen Daye Richardson, editor of National Minority Politics, a conservative political magazine, puts it another way:

"Younger people, because they have participated in it, see affirmative action more as a mixed bag," she says. "On one hand you might get an opportunity, and on the other hand it might be tainted because people don't think you got it fairly."

"I think older people are much more adamant about it," she says. "They were right in the middle of the fight for all these rights and they remember what it was like before."

To conclude this, Richardson needs to look no further than home, where there is a gulf between generations.

At 37, Richardson is a successful businesswoman and writer.

## Stigma in college

When she was in college, affirmative action meant people questioned her credentials, she says: "I was smart my whole life, and then when I went to college I was only there because I was black." In business, she looked into programs for minorities but found them demeaning and intrusive.

Her mother, Daisy R. Daye, 65, sees affirmative action with similar conviction — but an opposing view. The director of a day-care center in Newport News, Va., Daye remembers segregated lunch counters and water fountains, sitting in the back of the bus and being sent to schools that didn't get equal funding.

"I think a lot of people don't understand affirmative action and the purpose for what it was originated," she says. "We were qualified and we didn't get the job because we were black. Or we had the grades to go to that school but we couldn't afford it because we were black."

"People talk about how we should live in color-blind society," she says. "But we don't." A large part of getting any job depends on knowing someone — and "the other race has more connections," she says.

Even today, "society does not willingly hire blacks if they can hire other people," she says. Her daughter's attitudes, she concludes, are shaped by age and a less harsh experience.

But age is only one possible cause for such opposition, says Tillery, the Houston civil-rights historian.

## Who is helped?

There's simple ideology — be it Republican politics or Nation of Islam beliefs. And then there's the issue of effectiveness. Some scholars suggest affirmative action helps white women much more than blacks. Others say it has failed those at the bottom — people who lack the schooling or job skills to be in the running for colleges or good jobs.

"While some blacks have benefited from it, there really is no evidence that it has improved black people as a whole," says Tillery. "People wonder whether it's worth all the grief."

He adds: "Even those of us who clearly are supportive of affirmative action, who were committed to it 20 years ago ... even some pretty die-hard Democrats ... are questioning whether or not this approach will in the end take us where we want to go."

For the Colemans, a prominent family of Washington lawyers who call Philadelphia their hometown, affirmative action remains the most viable solution around. But Lovida H. Coleman Jr., 46, is open to new ideas that might quell the divisiveness that surrounds the issue.

Her father, William T. Coleman Jr., 75, argues it's not nearly time to overhaul the policies. "In my judgment, the country needs another 20 years before they get to that," he says.

## Early experiences

William Lewis passed his early childhood in the Louisiana that shut out blacks, in the era of Jim Crow. "I know what it is to be told to go to the back door because of my heritage," he recalls, with lingering indignation.

But Lewis also knew the more integrated city of Denver. He moved there with his family in 1953, and went on to make a home for his own family, opening a greenhouse business and raising five children.

His son, Michael, grew up solidly middle class, attending integrated schools. "I didn't even realize that race mattered until I came to

Washington in 1988," he recalls. "Of course, things come up, but the whole ongoing racial issue in this country never made much of a difference."

Michael Lewis, 28, is on the rise in corporate America, a public relations manager for MCI, the telecommunications giant. But he is divided, if not outright opposed, to much of affirmative action.

He objects to affirmative action in college admissions ("I don't think it's made that much of a difference") and in government contracts ("It creates dependency, and there's a lot of fraud and abuse").

In the workplace, he says, the situation is more tricky, not because of racism necessarily, but because people tend to hire and promote people "who they're comfortable with — their friends, their relatives, people they know."

"I think there has to be something in place where people who can't get in that way are allowed to get in," he says. But he wants to limit government's role.

"If a company makes an effort to (hire minorities), fine. But if the government says, 'There has to be so many in Company A or Company B,' then no," he says. The elder Lewis calls his son "soft on discrimination." The Lewises don't share political beliefs: The father is a Democrat, the son Republican.

"The '60s generation and the civil rights generation are very wed to the affirmative action view of then," says Michael Lewis. "I think there's a difference in opinion between the so-called X generation and the '60s generation."

His father suggests another analysis:

"Michael has had a better life and that's why he's talking the way he is," he says. In his own experience, Lewis says, discrimination has been more real — and not just in the long-ago past.

Lewis had gone through a mid-life change of careers, from the business world to the history classroom. But only after applying for jobs at numerous private schools in Louisiana — and being rejected without so much as an interview — did friends advise him it was

futile: They are overwhelmingly white institutions, created in the wake of school desegregation. "If you're big and bad and you want to do without affirmative action, go ahead," William Lewis says. "But don't take from people who need it."

# Shared dorm life rewards professors, students

© New York Times News Service

PHILADELPHIA — At the Van Pelt College House, an undergraduate residence hall at the University of Pennsylvania, the two baby strollers leaning against the cinder-block walls are sure signs that the professors are around.

Dr. Al Filreis, 39, is not just the chairman of the undergraduate English program at the university. And his wife, Susan Albertine, 45, is not just a visiting English professor. They are also residents of the Van Pelt dormitory, along with their children, Benjamin, 4, and Hannah, 17 months.

For 10 years, the couple usually spent only four nights a week together because of the three-hour commute Filreis had between the couple's home in Selinsgrove, Pa., and the university.

For some of that time, he spent a few nights a week at the dormitory. Over the summer they decided to do what thousands of students across the country do every year — leave home and move into a college dormitory.

The two professors are among 25 faculty members, most of whom have families, taking part in the universi-

ty's Academic Programs in Residence.

Since 1971, nearly 200 university faculty members have been in the program. In exchange for living in a dorm for three years and serving as student advisers, they pay no rent and get five meals a week.

Such arrangements have increased on college campuses in the last 10 years, said Dale Tampke, director of housing at Ohio State University. His 1992 survey reported that of 250 colleges, about 20 percent had faculty members who lived in residence halls.

Both college housing and academic administrators are looking for ways to increase contact and improve relations between faculty and students, said Gary Schwarzmüller, executive director of the Association of College and University Housing Officers International, which commissioned Tampke's study.

But he said that such interaction was still most often achieved through courses taught in residence halls — something that is more comfortable for students and faculty members.

Some of the 160 students at Van Pelt talked of the advantages of having live-in professors.

"I feel totally comfortable with the

living situation," said Kristen Ludwig, 20, of Glendale, Ariz.

"Al is right downstairs if I have a question about a course choice. Having a house master who is involved with activities and cares to hear opinions on any subject at any time, whether it be in person or through e-mail, makes the house seem community-oriented and friendly."

Filreis and Albertine have access to the Resnet, the computer system that links residence halls to many other systems, both on and off campus.

Another student recalled receiving a computer message from a friend who had said he was going to commit suicide. She saw Filreis in the lobby and together they found the friend before it was too late.

Of the couple's decision to move onto campus, Filreis said, "We wanted to try to experiment with a total immersion with university life."

So they sold their four-bedroom home on three acres overlooking the Susquehanna River and moved into a three-bedroom apartment in the dorm, on a busy street on Philadelphia's west side.

"I'm in the midst of making a career change," said Albertine, who is

on leave from Susquehanna University. Living on campus, she said, "will help in her decision about remaining at the college on a long-term basis."

There have been inconveniences, including some loss of privacy. "I feel as if I am observed," Albertine said, but "in a nice and friendly way."

Overall, the experience has been a positive one, her husband said. "I think we are better teachers and scholars for living fully in the university," Filreis said. "We feel the university academic mission more deeply since we are always here."

In addition, he said, "I save time by being available to the students because I can solve problems and give advice right away rather than wait until the problem becomes huge."

The professors give residents advice not only about college matters, but also about life itself, including how to maintain a long-distance relationship.

"Al and Susan are so generous with their time and advice," said Kei Sochi, 27, a graduate student from New York and resident adviser at the dorm. "They love having students come to them to ask questions and are always available."



Dec. 8, 1995

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# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

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LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1995

## Cancellation of gay literature class criticized

BY SCOTT LEARN

NORTHEASTERN KENTUCKY BUREAU

MOREHEAD — The abrupt cancellation of a planned gay and lesbian literature course at Morehead State University has stirred controversy among English professors and some gay students.

John C. Philley, vice president for academic affairs, rejected the class after it had been approved by three curriculum committees.

The course had been planned for the spring semester. The adjunct professor who proposed it said it would have been the only course of its kind in Kentucky.

Philley said he canceled the course solely for budgetary reasons, although he does have concerns about the need for a class focusing on gay literature.

He said he plans to allow the department of English, foreign languages and philosophy to offer the course next school year, probably in spring 1997.

"I won't say that I don't have some reservations about the course," Philley said. "But, fundamentally, content did not have anything to do with the decision."

Patti C. Swartz, the faculty member who pitched the course, is skeptical of Philley's motives and wonders whether the class will indeed be offered next year.

Budget problems could be used as an excuse to postpone the course indefinitely, she said.

"I think that Dr. Philley probably acted in what he felt were the best interests of the university, but with a feeling that this would be a controversial course," Swartz said. "I'm not sure it would have been so controversial if it had just been put on the schedule."

Several gay students echoed Swartz's view, including Peggy Hines, 35.

"I feel that this backing out is kowtowing to what they think is the public's mood," Hines said.

Swartz began seeking approval for the course in October 1994. It was approved unanimously as an experimental course by curriculum committees in the English department and the college of humanities. A university-wide committee approved it in February with two dissenting votes, Swartz said.

It was the only new elective undergraduate course proposed for spring, said Philley, who canceled it in October. He said he did not reject it until then because the proposal was delayed in reaching him.

Philley also said that some on the university committee thought a separate course on gay literature was unnecessary.

Martin Cothran, a public policy analyst with the Family Foundation of Lexington, shares that view.

Such a course would be more for "political indoctrination" than academic instruction, he said. He said he doubts many students would be interested.

"I think what these groups want to do is to force the rest of society to say that what they're doing is OK morally," Cothran said. "And there's a large portion of society that just doesn't want to say that."

With the cancellation of the gay literature course, Swartz will now teach another composition section — she is under contract to teach four courses in the spring — so the university will not save money, she said. She questioned the need for another composition section.

Mark Minor, chairman of the English department, said the section is needed, and the department would have had to hire another adjunct faculty member to teach it if Swartz hadn't been assigned.

Minor said he understands the skepticism of Swartz and students interested in the course, given frequent bias against gays.

But Minor said the school's budget concerns are legitimate, and he has never heard Philley or other decision-makers fret publicly or privately about potential controversy arising from the course.

"I can't read minds," he said, "but if people are thinking that, it's not evident to me."

Morehead State's gay population is relatively large, said Swartz, who is a lesbian, and "homophobia is fairly deep here in certain places."

The course would try to show

the different ways that gay and lesbian writers perceive reality, including the effect of discrimination against homosexuals. Swartz said she thinks gay and straight students would take it.

The university, which is emphasizing "diversity" in its curriculum, offers courses in African-American literature and writing from a feminist perspective.

Minor, the English department chairman, and Swartz said the course idea originated with students. Swartz cited a dozen universities, including Georgia Southern University and the University of Oklahoma, that have gay literature courses.

"We're not pushing a gay and lesbian agenda," Minor said. "Nobody's trying to talk anybody into being one. We're simply recognizing that this is a viewpoint that has to be understood."

**"I won't say that I don't have some reservations about the course. But, fundamentally, content did not have anything to do with the decision."**

**JOHN C. PHILLEY**  
Morehead State University vice president for academic affairs.

# Medical training programs offered

## UK to start curricula at Morehead

By **LYNNE AUSTIN**  
FOR THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

**MOREHEAD** — People living in medically underserved areas of Eastern Kentucky will benefit from two new programs the University of Kentucky will start at Morehead State University next year.

UK will offer nurse practitioner and physician assistant programs at MSU, using facilities from MSU and St. Claire Medical Center and faculty from UK.

"This is a chance to do something that will benefit students and citizens of the surrounding area," said Dr. James H. Holsinger, chancellor of the UK Chandler Medical Center.

"We can train clinicians locally and keep them here when they complete their training. The program allows students to work in local practices and go to school locally, which increases the likelihood they will be hired in local practices."

"Too often we give students an education as a ticket out of Eastern Kentucky," said Dr. John C. Philley, MSU executive vice president for academic affairs. "This venture addresses that and shows we can work together for the betterment of the Commonwealth."

UK College of Nursing faculty will teach the two-year master's degree-level nurse practitioner program. Faculty from the UK College of Allied Health Professionals and MSU College of Science and Technology will teach the physician assistant course, a four-year undergraduate program.

"This is a big step forward for Eastern Kentucky," said state Rep. John Will Stacy, D-West Liberty. "I don't think you're going to get a physician in every small area of this state — at least not in the near future."

Physician assistants can treat routine problems, leaving more time for physicians to follow more complicated ones, said Frank Ballard, a board-certified physician assistant at MSU's student clinic. He graduated in UK's first UK physician assistant class in 1975.

Physician assistants can perform physical exams and medical histories, give preliminary diagnosis and treatment, and do follow-up exams, said Dr. Gerry Gairola, chair of UK's Department of Health Services.

Mary Murry, a nurse practitioner/midwife at St. Claire's Maternity Center, said nurse midwives treat low-risk obstetric patients.

Physicians will see patients with problems and will usually co-manage the patient's care with the nurse midwife, she said. In cases of pre-term labor or other serious complications, the patient will be referred to a specialist.

Funding for the nurse practitioner programs will come from a three-year start-up grant from the Division of Nursing, Bureau of Health Professionals, a division of the federal government.

Carolyn Williams, dean of UK's College of Nursing, estimated the start-up cost at about \$400,000. Enrollment of eight students is anticipated when the program begins in January and will reach 16 students as it becomes established.

Williams said training in nurse midwifery will begin as additional funds become available.

Dr. Thomas Robinson, dean of UK College of Allied Health Professionals, said he expects enrollment of 10 students in the physician assistant program when the program begins in August 1996. That will eventually grow to about 20 students.

Enrollment preference in each program will be given to students from MSU's 22-county service area.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL

• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1995

## Morehead to get health training

The University of Kentucky's Chandler Medical Center is joining Morehead State University and the St. Claire Medical Center to offer training in Morehead for people who want to become nurse practitioners and physician assistants.

The nurse practitioner program will begin in January with the enrollment of eight students. The physician assistant program will start its first class in August with as many as 10 students.

Preference will be given to students from Morehead and 22 nearby counties.

The programs will fulfill the mandate of the state's recently enacted Health Care Reform Act that the state universities produce mid-level health care specialists to work in medically underserved areas of Kentucky.

# Panel dodges community college issue

By MARK R. CHELLGREN  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

FRANKFORT — A group created by the General Assembly to study higher education ducked the tricky issue of governing community colleges in its final report, recommending another study instead.

House Speaker Jody Richards, chairman of the Task Force on Higher Education, said the issue was not dodged because it was too controversial. Instead, he said the important work of the task force was to recognize and recommend the need for more money for state universities.

But Rep. Freed Curd, D-Murray, the chairman of the House Education Committee, said the issue was skirted because it was too hot to handle.

A proposal in the final report to combine oversight of the community colleges and the state vocational education program under one organization was deleted without debate Wednesday. The recommendation for another study was substituted.

The University of Kentucky now runs the 14 community colleges scattered across the state. The Workforce Development Cabinet now oversees the state vocational schools. The programs offered are sometimes duplicative and the other seven universities sometimes compete for students with community colleges and have long coveted them.

The final meeting of the task force, which was created in June, lasted barely more than 15 minutes and the only real comments made were from university presidents, who complimented legislators for recognizing the need for more money.

"We all do know there is a need for additional funds,"

said UK President Charles Wethington.

"The stands you have taken show your support for us," added Mary Smith of Kentucky State University.

The final report endorses the recommendation of the Council on Higher Education of an 8.4 percent budget increase for universities in the coming 1997 fiscal year and a 9.8 percent budget increase the following year.

**I** think people are really disappointed that they don't take a tougher stand on these things than they do.

**Rep. Freed Curd D-Murray**

That would involve nearly \$200 million more money for higher education. But two legislative members of the task force tempered their support.

Richards and Rep. Danny Ford of Mount Vernon, the Republican floor leader in the House, said they favored more money for higher education, but only if it was available in relation to the rest of the state's budget.

But higher education interests are always asking for more money.

What they have avoided is the matter of competition among the universities.

Richards said the final report says the Council on Higher Education should do more to oversee the system.

Curd said that is a hollow idea because the council has shown it is not up to the task.

"I think people are really disappointed that they don't take a tougher stand on these things than they do," Curd said.

Associated Press

**MOREHEAD, Ky.** — Hit don't seem to think we can discriminate against people based on how they speak," he said. "We need to realize that our attitudes about language are really attitudes about classes of people."

Morehead State University linguistics Professor Terry Irons is among the latter.

Irons is pulling together 98 interviews with Kentuckians in the 1940s and '50s and hoping to return to the 34 communities where those sessions took place to see how the language has changed since.

His goal is to create a "Linguistic Atlas of Kentucky," mapping out how pronunciation, grammar and word choice vary across the state. As far as he knows, it would be the first broad-based look at language differences in Kentucky.

Irons also hopes his project will foster more tolerance for different ways of speaking.

"We don't discriminate against women or black people, but we speak against people based on how they speak," he said. "We need to realize that our attitudes about language are really attitudes about classes of people."

For years, the assumption has been that new roads, migration trends and exposure to television would erase unique speech patterns in places like Eastern Kentucky.

But linguistics researchers have not found as much change in regional language as they expected, Irons said. When he does his follow-up interviews, he expects to find that significant language differences still exist.

The study hinges on getting federal money and congressional approval. But Irons has reached some tentative conclusions from his preliminary work.

Perhaps contrary to conventional wisdom, he's found that Eastern Kentucky speech tended to follow the "Midland" region of the East Coast — radiating from Philadelphia into Ohio — more than the South. Speech in Western Kentucky, on the other hand, tended to be more Southern.

For example, interviewers in towns such as Olive Hill, Ashland and Whitesburg found that people often said "snake feeder" for "drag only." That's characteristic of the Midland region.

In Western Kentucky, residents almost always used "snake doctor," the Southern term.

"When I moved to Eastern Kentucky, I found that people always felt stigmatized because they're 'speaking Southern,'" Irons said. "But they don't have a Southern speech pattern. It's unique to the mountain region."

Even with his background, Irons bumped into language difficulties himself when he arrived at Morehead in 1993.

Irons, who grew up in southern Ohio, tells a story of a student who kept telling him she "didn't care to" do an assignment.

"Finally I said, 'Look, I don't care what you care to do; I want you to do this,'" Irons said. "I eventually learned that 'I don't care to' means 'I don't mind.'"

The speech differences parallel settlement patterns, Irons said. The Scotch and Irish who settled Eastern Kentucky often came from western Pennsylvania and other northern spots.

Differences persist because language not only helps people communicate, it also identifies who they are, Irons said. And people are still quite attached to their regions, especially in Kentucky.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • KENTUCKY / REGION • FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1995

## 'Kentuckian' is more than just one language

# Swoosh! NCAA's stance on logos defies any logic

BY KEVIN B. BLACKSTONE  
DALLAS MORNING NEWS

DALLAS — It is with great regret for the tens of fans of the Tennessee Tech women's basketball team that I report the following news.

**The NCAA's athletes are mere amateurs. It just so happens they make zillions for their schools and the NCAA by playing sports in sold-out bowl games named after commercial sponsors and made-for-TV basketball tournaments named after the same.**

This season's Golden Eaglettes' media guide is unavailable. So, too, is their poster.

You can't get either anywhere. Not by mail order. Not by phone order. Not even at the bookstore in the Golden Eaglettes' home hamlet of Cookeville, Tenn.

Forget about it.

Not that Tennessee Tech athletics' publicists Rob Schabert and Jeff Patton didn't do their jobs. They did. They compiled the statistics. Wrote the notes. Had the photos taken, including the traditional cover shot.

"It's our tradition to go out into the community to take our cover picture," Patton said. "We took it in front of the fountain one year. We took it in front of the courthouse one year. This year, we went to the mall."

That's the Cookeville Mall, of course.

The Golden Eaglettes could have posed before the mall's main entrance. They could have posed in front of the mall's anchor department store.

The Golden Eaglettes are a basketball team, though, not a construction company or consumer watchdog outfit. So they posed at the mall's sports store, Sports One. Right in front. With the store's Nike window display in the background.

What a shoot, Schabert and Patton thought. Off to the printer they went. Then they proudly trotted off to the Ohio Valley Conference media day with their brand

new Golden Eaglettes' media guides under their arms.

That was the last time they were seen in public.

"We took them to media day, and someone at media day checked with our conference," Patton said. "They took it to the NCAA."

The NCAA told Tennessee Tech to keep those media guides to itself. None could be released for public consumption. The Nike swoosh symbol on the cover made it appear as if the Golden Eaglettes were endorsing Nike, especially given that they were sporting Nike shoes on the cover, too.

"If the logo is in the picture," Patton said the NCAA informed, "you can't wear the shoes or the apparel. So we're going to have to reprint the cover and the poster."

I asked Patton if he could send me one of the illicit guides and posters before the school spends a few thousand dollars out of its little budget to print new ones.

"Nope," he said, noting that he had six boxes of the contraband at his feet waiting to be retrieved by the printer. "We were told that we could jeopardize the players' eligibility if we sent any more out."

The NCAA, once again, was reiterating its rule that student-athletes are forbidden from endorsing or promoting commercial products. Its athletes are mere amateurs. It just so happens they make zillions for their schools and the NCAA by playing sports in sold-out bowl games named after commercial sponsors and made-for-TV basketball tournaments named after the same.

That's OK, somehow. So, too, are the major-league college football teams that appear on television just about every fall weekend wearing jerseys boldly displaying the Nike swoosh or Reebok symbol or some other athletic apparel logo.

The swoosh on Penn State lineman Jeff Harting's jersey stands out nearly as clearly as his No. 50 on the Nittany Lions' football guide. The Michigan men's basketball guide shows Wolverines in action — with Nike shoes on their feet and a swoosh on their shorts. The Texas A&M football guide features running back Leeland McElroy and lineman Brandon Mitchell, their Russell Athletic jersey tags in clear sight.

Fortunately for schools like Penn State and Michigan and Texas A&M, the NCAA doesn't confuse their teams' media guides and posters and uniforms with endorsing or promoting athletic apparel companies. Their players just happen to be walking, breathing billboards. They aren't positioned in front of any.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 8, 1995

# Marion coach fulfills his sideline dream at age 24

It seems like only yesterday that Kelly Wells was earning All-State honors at Rowan County and playing college basketball at Tulsa and Morehead State.

"It was only yesterday," Wells said, laughing about his quick turnaround from player to coach.

Only 24 and less than nine months removed from playing in his final college game, Wells seems not the least bit surprised that he's already a head coach. He's in his first year at Marion County, a school that won the state championship in 1993.

"What you believe is what you can conceive," Wells said. "Even though I am young, I've been preparing for this for years."

Indeed. Even while Wells was helping Rowan County to three consecutive state tournaments, he had his eye on his future. In a 1990 story in the Herald-Leader, Wells, then a high school senior, said that basketball was in his blood and that he would be a coach someday.

His father, Mickey, is a former women's coach at Morehead State.

"You know how some families sit at home and watch basketball games?" Kelly said in that 1990 interview. "We sit at home and analyze games."

Now he's sitting at home and trying to figure out how to build Marion County back into a state power.

The advantage of being such a young coach? "I was right there within the last year so the kids realize I know the physical and mental demands," said Wells, who at 6-foot-6 is an imposing presence on the sidelines.

The disadvantage? "I haven't experienced what the veteran coaches have," he said. "I can't teach what I haven't seen."

Wells draws on the knowledge of assistant coaches Josh McKay, a former head coach, Terry Wright and Danny Marks. He also talks weekly with his high school coach, Tim Moore.

"I've got a lot to learn, I know that," Wells said. "But this is what I love doing, and I think I'll be doing it for a long time."



Wells

Dec. 13, 1995

# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030  
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1995

## Higher education top priority

### Patton pledges to be visionary mountain leader

BY JACK BRAMMER  
AND CHAD CARLTON

HERALD-LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — Saying his only agenda is "to make Kentucky the very best it can be," a confident Paul Edward Patton of Pike County yesterday took the reins of power as the commonwealth's 59th governor.

In his inaugural address on the Capitol steps, Patton vowed to be a bold, visionary leader in the mold of the last mountain governor, the late Bert T. Combs.

While Combs will be remembered for his lifelong efforts to improve Kentucky schools, Patton said he is dedicated to reforming the state's higher education system.

"It is my determination that the historians of this era will record that it was another leader from the mountains, Paul Patton, who laid the foundation of change in post-secondary education that brought Kentucky out of the backwoods of economic opportunity and made our people prosper in a way that only the dreamers could imagine today," Patton said.

Thousands of friends, supporters and dignitaries braved the cool, gray afternoon to attend the ceremonial changing of the guard.

Red, white and blue bunting decorated the Capitol windows and the platform where Patton was joined by his family, former governors, state officials and others.

Patton kissed his wife, Judi, and the two strode to the podium where Kentucky Supreme Court Chief Justice Robert F. Stephens of Lexington administered the oath.

Patton, who has been lieutenant governor the last four years, swore on a King James Reference Bible given to him by his late father, Ward Patton.

The 58-year-old governor promised a new era of cooperation and progress.

"I am not wise enough to carry this burden alone," Patton said. "My sense of fallibility compels me to forge an alliance within and without state government."

He specifically mentioned alliances with legislators, state employees, educators and members of the business and labor communities.

The most critical alliance in the coming months will be with members of the General Assembly, who have tangled with recent governors over the state's direction.

### 'Higher education governor'

Patton challenged the state's universities "to throw off the shackles of the past" and follow the examples of efficiency in the business world to create a better higher education system.

For years, universities have competed against one another for precious tax dollars, which has resulted in program duplication and regional strife.

"I challenge you to ... show me a system more devoted to innovation than it is to turf, more concerned about the big picture than it is about its own place in that picture and I'll work with you to find the money to do the job," Patton said.

Higher education needs more money "but money alone will not remedy the maladies," he said.

After his speech, some leaders whom Patton must work with to change higher education said they look forward to hearing more about his ideas.

"We are willing to go more than halfway with him on this important subject," said House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, who formed a task force this year on higher education.

Patton "has an excellent relationship with the legislature, which is eager to work with him on higher education," he said.

The chairman of the Senate Education Committee, Joe Meyer, D-Covington, said Patton "has elevated this critical topic. You are going to hear a lot about higher education in the coming months."

Gary Cox, executive director of the Council on Higher Education, said Patton can accomplish his goal "with a measured approach."

"This is too complex to do in one fell swoop," Cox said. "It is something that will need the attention of his next four years and probably his next term if he is re-elected."

Patton will be the first governor who can seek re-election to a second, consecutive four-year term.

University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington said the possibility of a second term gives Patton an advantage over his predecessors.

Former Gov. Wallace Wilkinson, who tried to push higher education reforms, said Patton is capable of making the changes and becoming "the higher education governor."

"In the long run, this battle will prove more difficult than the reforms of primary and secondary education five years ago," Wilkinson said.

Patton didn't divulge any specific plans for higher education during or after his speech. "I'll say more about this in the next few weeks and for the 1996 General Assembly," he said.

### Supporting schools

Patton, a former Pike County judge-executive who pledged during the campaign to "fix" the 1990 Kentucky Education Reform Act, sounded a more supportive tone in his speech yesterday.

"We will go forward with reforming our schools. We will improve education in every section of this state. We will not retreat," Patton said.

Patton vowed to address concerns of parents, teachers and others but made it clear that he was not planning the kind of major changes in KERA supported by his Republican opponent, Larry Forgy of Lexington.

"We will resist the efforts of the short-sighted, the timid, the selfish and the narrow-minded, the demagogues and the opportunists," Patton said.

In his 19-minute speech, Patton also repeated many of his campaign themes: safer streets, tax cuts, honest government and job creation.

He promised to help restore "basic values" to society, leading by example "for our children so they can understand that it was these values of hard work, morality, compassion, honesty, respect for the law and a belief in God that made this nation great."

Also sworn into office yesterday was Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, a Louisville surgeon who is the first physician to hold the state's No. 2 elective office.

Henry, also the first lieutenant governor in Kentucky to run on a slate with a gubernatorial candidate, pledged to work with Patton.

"We are together committed to writing one of the greatest chapters in the history of the commonwealth, and it is today that we begin the first page."

Henry, who will be Patton's human resources secretary, said he wanted the new administration to be remembered "for providing quality health care to the poor and suffering."

Departing Gov. Brereton Jones looked solemn as he sat on the platform's front row and watched Patton take control of a government Jones has led for four years.

"I'm nostalgic and excited today," Jones said afterward. "Nostalgic about the fact that we're leaving a lot of friends in state government. And excited about the future of the commonwealth because I think we are leaving it in excellent hands."



# GOV. PATTON'S INAUGURAL ADDRESS

An excerpt from Gov. Paul Patton's inaugural address:

Today we begin a new chapter in the history of Kentucky. We enter this new era, with only one agenda, to make Kentucky the very best it can be.

Ours will be an administration that serves all the people, young and old, black and white, male and female, Democrat and Republican, those who supported us and those who did not fully comprehend our message.

I'll be a governor for all Kentucky but I will be a governor from eastern Kentucky.

We will be an administration of tolerance, of inclusion, of compassion. Our byword will be fairness and equal treatment for all our citizens, with malice towards none.

Within state government, I am committed to an alliance of consultation, constructive reaction and cooperation with state employees and with the General Assembly.

This will be an administration that forms a partnership with the legislature, a partnership based on respect, frankness, and equality.

Within the educational community, I am committed to an alliance with our educators that will enhance the progress to which we are so firmly committed.

Within the business and labor communities, I am committed to the alliances I have already formed to achieve a strong economic base.

And with the people, I will form an alliance based on trust, openness, and mutual respect. This will be an administration that trusts the wisdom of the people and asks for their advice more than we tell them how great we are.

This will be an administration that is open, honest, and dedicated to the highest standards of ethical conduct.

This will be an administration that believes in communication, leadership, and setting the highest goals for us as a people.

The appointment of my cabinet is the first indication of the kind of governor I'll be.

I've called for the best and the brightest to sacrifice for the honor of serving the people of this great commonwealth. They have responded in a way that few would have believed.

We will go forward with re-

forming our schools; we will improve education in every section of this state. We will not retreat.

We'll address the legitimate concerns of the parents, teachers, and interested citizens of Kentucky. But we will resist the efforts of the shortsighted, the timid, the selfish, and the narrow-minded, the demagogues and the opportunists.

We'll make our streets safer, we'll teach our children to obey the rules of society, and we'll give tax relief to those who need relief the most.

We'll meet the challenge of the new relationship between our state and the federal government, and we will not abandon the most unfortunate among us.

Our system of higher education, and in that term I include all post-secondary education, must meet the challenge of a changed world.

Kentucky workers compete with workers the world over. Only our institutions of higher education can equip our people with the knowledge and skills that will make us productive in this new economy.

Just as business and industry have had to change to survive, just as I intend to change the way Kentucky state government works, I challenge the institutions of higher education to throw off the shackles of the past, use the instruments of modern science, emulate the techniques of progressive businesses and change the way you transfer knowledge.

I challenge you to articulate a new vision... show me a system more devoted to innovation than it is to turf, more concerned about the big picture than it is about its own place in that picture, and I'll work with you to find the money to do the job.

We will be an administration that represents the basic values that some in our society have ignored, and lead by example for our children, so they can understand that it was these values of hard work, morality, compassion, honesty, respect for the law, and a belief in God that made this nation great.

Our schools will be the citadel of these values and our administration the model for all to emulate.

The historians of 20th Century Kentucky will record that it was a leader from the mountains, Bert

Combs, who had a vision of better common schools in Kentucky and used his God-given talents to put Kentucky in the vanguard of education reform.

It is my determination that the historians of this era will record that it was another leader from the mountains, Paul Patton, who laid the foundation of change in post-secondary education that brought Kentucky out of the backwoods of economic opportunity and made our people prosper in a way that only the dreamers could imagine today.

Let history verify that because Kentuckians had a vision of a better life, a road map to that higher level, and a pilot with the courage, the commitment, and the tenacity to stay the course, Kentucky became the place where the best desired to be, not the place from which the best fled.

Let the chronicles that record the 20th Century of... the Bluegrass State make it clear to all who would inquire, that though the governors from the mountains were few, that special vantage point that comes from the struggle to extricate oneself from poverty, that special vision that comes from isolation, that special courage that comes from adversity, had instilled in these two men the intellect, the political skill, and the personal commitment that it took to make a difference.

And let history stamp with indelible ink in the minds of our children's children that they used those God-given virtues to build a better Kentucky.

The poet Robert Browning said a man's reach should exceed his grasp, or what's a heaven for? It's time for all of us to reach and dream again.

Our goal is that every "Old Kentucky Home" will be warm, with a full cupboard, a healthy family, with jobs for all who reside within.

Our vision is of a people endowed with skills to be productive in this global economy, instilled with the basic values of America, and filled with love for all mankind.

When we reach that goal, we can truly sing our beautiful state song with a smile on our face and joy in our heart, because the sun will be shining bright on every "Old Kentucky Home" and on this great commonwealth we love so much....

# No retreat from school reform, he vows at inaugural

By AL CROSS, Political Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Paul Edward Patton began his term as governor yesterday by issuing a challenge to the state's universities, vowing not to retreat on education reform and setting other grand goals for himself as a leader.

"I challenge the institutions of higher education to throw off the shackles of the past," Patton said in his inaugural address on the steps of the Capitol, with university presidents and legislators in the audience under a cold, gray sky.

"I challenge you to articulate a new vision, propose a new method, show me a system more devoted to innovation than it is to turf, more concerned about the big picture than it is about its own place in that picture, and I'll work with you to find the money to do the job."

Patton's inaugural represented the end of his long trek to the governor's chair, which took him through the rough and tumble of Pike County politics and three statewide races to become the first Eastern Kentucky politician to hold the office in a generation.

The ceremony drew hundreds of Pike County residents to Frankfort, where they stood along Main Street and Capitol Avenue to see the new governor and his wife, Judi, ride at the head of the inaugural parade in a black Corvette convertible.

Patton began his triumphant day by taking the official oath just after midnight as the term of Gov. Brereton Jones expired. Before the parade, Patton attended a prayer service at Frankfort's First Presbyterian Church with Lt. Gov. Steve Henry and other members of the Democratic slate, which swept the election.

In an interview, Kentucky's 59th governor declined to say what reforms he has in mind for higher education but said he probably would propose a reform plan to the General Assembly, which will convene Jan. 2.

Patton said he had worked for a week on his inaugural address, taking ideas from advisers but writing most of it himself.

In it he said that Kentucky "must have a system of higher education which is more responsive, more efficient and more relevant to today's realities and to tomorrow's needs. Our people deserve no less, and I will accept no less."

Patton's other remarks about education surely encouraged supporters of the 1990 Kentucky Education Reform Act. In his campaign, after Republican Larry Forgy said KERA was failing in the classroom, Patton ran ads saying he would "fix KERA."

Yesterday, he put it less bluntly: "We will have

the best elementary and secondary education programs in these United States of America. We will go forward with reforming our schools. We will improve education in every section of this state. We will not retreat."

In a jab at KERA's critics, he said, "We'll address the legitimate concerns of the parents and the teachers and the interested citizens of Kentucky, but we will resist the efforts of the shortsighted and the timid, the selfish and the narrow-minded, the demagogues and the opportunists."

He said public schools would be "the citadel" of the "values of hard work, morality, compassion, respect for the law and a belief in God that made this nation great," and promised that his administration would be "the model for all to emulate."

There was more bold talk as Patton indicated that he would, in turn, emulate Bert Combs, governor from 1959-63 and the last one from Eastern Kentucky.

"I will not be timid. I will be a leader," he pledged, adding that he wants history to record that "though the governors from the mountains were few, that special vantage point which comes from the struggle to extricate oneself from poverty, that special vision that comes from isolation, that special courage that comes from adversity, had instilled in these two men the intellect, the political skill and the personal commitment that it takes to make a difference."

Combs' daughter, Lois Weinberg of Hindman, smiled from the front row of the inaugural platform as honorary head of the event. Afterward, she told Patton, "My dad's ghost is up there, looking over your shoulder."

Weinberg said Patton differs from her father in many ways but resembles him in his strict adherence to integrity and principle and in his hands-on passion that inspires others. She noted that Patton, an engineer, designed the inaugural platform. "That's the way my dad went around here," she said. "That's why we've got a Floral Clock. There was a bare spot over there."

Patton was greeted all day by fellow mountaineers, and he gave one of his broadest smiles during the speech when he reiterated his campaign line, "I'll be a governor for all of Kentucky, but I will be a governor from Eastern Kentucky."

"It's a very proud day in Eastern Kentucky history and heritage," Pikeville City Manager John Johnson said. "People in Eastern Kentucky, not just Pikeville and Pike County, always felt like they've been left out of the state."

Lt. Gov. Steve Henry, who lives in Louisville but was raised in Owensboro, said it is fitting that the first governor and lieutenant governor elected as a team "come from opposite ends of the state."

Henry, a physician and former Jefferson County commissioner, said, "Let this administration be remembered for providing quality health

care to the poor and the suffering... for protecting our children, educating the impoverished, preserving our natural resources and, yes, spending our tax dollars wisely."

Patton and his wife designed the inaugural program for geographic diversity: singers from Lexington, their hometown of Pikeville and Henry's native Owensboro; the Youth Performing Arts School concert choir from Louisville; the choir of Fort Thomas High School; and the Northern Kentucky Community Chorus.

When Andrew "Skipper" Martin, the master of ceremonies and Patton's chief of staff, introduced the chorus, the crowd's attention turned instead to three helicopters flying low toward the Capitol. "I don't think this is them," Martin sputtered.

The crowd laughed at that, and at Patton's charitable description of those who didn't vote for him in the hard-fought election. He pledged to serve both "those who supported us and those who did not fully comprehend our message."

In the same vein, he said, "This will not be an administration of 'to the victor belongs the spoils,' but rather an administration in which the consistent, never-deviating philosophy will be: To the people belongs the best government the mind of man can conceive."

Forgy, whom Patton narrowly defeated, said he wasn't invited to the ceremonies and didn't see any of them on TV because he worked all day in his Lexington law office.

One of Patton's lines evoked one of Forgy's pet points in their race, that Kentuckians have a greater sense of place than any other state. Patton said he aims to make Kentucky "the place where the best desired to be, not the place from which the best fled."

Patton pledged cooperation with the legislature, state employees and the public at large. "This will be an administration that trusts the wisdom of the people and asks for their advice more than we tell them how great we are," he said, alluding to some of his predecessors' self-promotion.

After delivering his speech — and taking the ceremonial oath of office from Chief Justice Robert Stephens — Patton went to the Old Capitol for the traditional inaugural reception, where he signed his first letter as governor, which went to third-grader Jordan McGhee of Pikeville.

Jordan, 9, had written Patton before the election about his class's straw vote, and followed up with another letter after the election. "I was right!!!!!! I am glad that Paul Patton is our new governor. Because he is from Pikeville and he lives right next to my Grandmother and Grandpa. I have learned that if one person does not vote it will make a big difference."

Patton's letter to Jordan vowed his support for education and economic opportunity, themes he touched on in his inaugural address.

It's a good thing.

Even though Jordan got to sit on the platform yesterday, he said he didn't remember anything about it. "He talked so long," Jordan sighed.

Information for this story was also gathered by staff writer Fran Ellers.

## GUBERNATORIAL TRIVIA

Fourteen counties trace their names to governors:

- ✓ The governor's inaugural ball was canceled in 1943 by Simeon Willis because it fell on the second anniversary of the bombing of Pearl Harbor.
- ✓ Thomas Mason, a stonemason who helped build the Old State Capitol, was inaugurated there as governor in 1828.
- ✓ The second inauguration of James B. McCreary, in 1911, was the first held at the present Capitol. He also was the first governor to live in the Executive Mansion.
- ✓ The oath of office, required by the state constitution, includes the provision that the individual has not fought a duel with deadly weapons or acted as a second in a duel.
- ✓ James T. Morehead, who became governor in 1834 when John Breathitt died, was the first native Kentuckian to become governor.

STAFF ILLUSTRATION BY STEVE DURBIN

# Final UK-Lees deal expected next week

## UK business college renamed for donor

HERALD-LEADER STAFF REPORT

For the first time, the University of Kentucky is naming one of its colleges after a person.

The person who gets that honor — Tennessee auto dealer C.M. "Bill" Gatton — is also the person who made the largest individual gift to UK.

The amount of that gift was kept secret at first but last month was revealed to be \$14 million.

The Board of Trustees yesterday unanimously voted to rename the College of Business and Economics the "Carol Martin Gatton College of Business and Economics."

The college's building also will be named for Gatton.

Gatton's gift will be used to establish an endowment fund that will support faculty, student scholarships, teaching awards and other college priorities.

"This is, I believe, a well-earned and well-deserved recognition," said UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.

Gatton was out of town yesterday and could not be reached for comment.

**Tennessee auto dealer C.M. "Bill" Gatton made the largest individual gift to UK.**

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

The University of Kentucky and Lees College are close to signing the deal that will mean the end of the private college and the birth of a community college campus in Jackson.

UK officials told the Board of Trustees finance committee yesterday that the agreement between the two schools should be finalized by next week, possibly as soon as Monday.

Lees would continue to operate through June much as it does now, said Robert Lawson, an assistant to UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr.

At that point, UK would take over — although Lees still would own the buildings, which would be leased to UK for \$1 a year.

The campus then would become a branch of Hazard Community College, and students would start paying UK community college tuition.

Lees College President Charles Derrickson said yesterday that he thinks enrollment will increase after UK starts running the campus as part of a community college.

Lees' admissions office has received about 1,500 requests for information on the fall 1996 semester, said Lees spokeswoman Susan Herald.

"I wouldn't be surprised if there's record enrollment this fall," said Derrickson, who plans to retire Jan. 1. "The need is here and opportunity is great."

The difference in tuition between the schools might be sparking that interest as well. UK community college tuition for 1996-97 will be \$500 a semester, while Lees this year charged \$2,400 for a semester.

"People know that a community college is coming there with low tuition," he said.

Lawson said other key points in the agreement include:

■ Lees' seven faculty members with tenure would be brought into the UK system.

■ The 17 Lees faculty members who don't have tenure and the 45 other employees would be kept on for at least a year after UK takes over. During that time, the university would decide whether to hire those employees full-time.

■ All students in good academic standing at Lees would automatically have their credits transferred to the community college system after UK takes over.

■ UK also probably would operate one of Lees' dormitories through the next academic year to accommodate the students who live on campus.

UK has committed spending

\$4.1 million over the next three years to run Lees. That money will come from the revenue it makes off mining and timber in the Robinson Forest.

But beyond that, the university has not committed any money to the Lees campus.

The state Council on Higher Education in October said it would support using state money for the estimated \$1 million cost of offering academic programs. But it also told UK that the university should pay the \$500,000 annual operating costs itself.

Lawson said the agreement calls for Lees to retain ownership of the buildings partly because it still holds a mortgage on one of them. But because interest on the loan is only 3 percent, UK is not in a hurry to retire that debt, he said.

The agreement stipulates that UK can ask to take possession of the buildings any time or can refuse to take them if offered, he said.

Lawson said that part of the deal was structured to offer UK more flexibility — but not because UK feared not having the money to run Lees after the initial commitment.

"We wouldn't be going through all this trouble if we didn't think we were going to stay there," he said.

## UK, Lees College near agreement on takeover

### Final merger terms likely in a week

From AP and Staff Dispatches

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Lees College and the University of Kentucky are close to an agreement for UK to assume the responsibility of the Breathitt County college, a UK official said yesterday.

The arrangement could become final within the next week, "certainly before the end of this calendar year," said Robert Lawson, assistant to the president for administrative affairs at UK.

The agreement was discussed at a meeting of the UK board of trustees' finance committee yesterday.

Lees, a private two-year college in Jackson, will continue operating from the date of the agreement until June 28. Ultimately, there will be a debt-free transfer of the Lees campus to UK. Until then, the Lees Corp. will hold the properties and lease them to UK for \$1 a year.

Once the merger is completed, Lees will become a branch campus of UK's Hazard Community College.

Lees President Charles Derrickson said yesterday that he was pleased with the progress of negotiations and glad to see the school saved. "I think the need is here and that this is a great opportunity," he added.

He noted that student inquiries for the fall semester are triple the normal number. "We're enthused about that, and with the changes coming about, I

look for a large number of student this fall," Derrickson said.

Current enrollment is about 500. Once the school becomes a UK community college branch, tuition will drop from \$2,400 a semester to \$490 semester.

With Morehead State University offering junior and senior-level classes and graduate courses there, many area students will be able to earn degrees without leaving the region, Derrickson said.

"I feel real good about that too," Derrickson said.

UK's board of trustees authorized the university earlier to use money from the E.O. Robinson quasi-endowment to finance the merger through 1998. The money will come from royalties for coal mined in UK's Robinson Forest.

UK President Charles Wethington has said no financing for the Hazard branch has been set after mid-1998. But the state Council on Higher Education, which recently endorsed the merger, said that UK can seek state funding later for classes at Lees beginning in 1998. It will have to use private funds to maintain the campus. In other action yesterday, the board:

✓ Approved the creation of a for-profit corporation that will allow UK to affiliate with primary-care practitioners to manage, provide and deliver medical services to people in Eastern and Central Kentucky.

✓ Accepted the results of an election for one of three alumni seats on the board. Current alumna member Marian Moore Sims of Lexington, Eugene Spragens of Lebanon and Jack Guthrie of Louisville received the most votes. The names of the top three vote-getters are sent to the governor, who will choose the board member.

✓ Voted to name the College of Business and Economics and the building that houses it for Carol Martin Gatton of Bristol, Tenn., a UK alumnus who gave \$14 million to the college. It is the first time a UK college has been named for an individual.

# Ashland to give Marshall donation \$1 million to help fund scholars, library

By KENNETH HART  
OF THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Ashland Inc. announced Monday that it will donate \$1 million to Marshall University over the next five years.

The donation will be made in \$200,000 increments through the Ashland Inc. Foundation, the company's charitable giving arm.

Half of the money will go to support Marshall's Yeager Scholars program. The other half will be used to help fund the construction of a new library that Marshall President Dr. J. Wade Gilley said will put the school "on the cutting edge of information technology."

The new library will be equipped with fiber-optic cables and will serve as an on-ramp to the information highway, Gilley said.

He said plans call for the library to be completed within two years of the groundbreaking.

The school is attempting to raise \$7 million for the library before ground is broken this summer, Gilley said. Ashland's gift brings the total amount pledged for the project to \$2.5 million.

Gilley said Ashland has long been one of Marshall's strongest supporters.

"Everything we are now... we can give Ashland a lot of credit for it," he said.

Since 1979, Ashland's foundation and its employees have donated more than \$3.5 million to Marshall, not including the latest contribution.

The company supports Marshall because the school furnishes the company with more employees than any other university, said John R. Hall, Ashland's chairman and chief executive officer.

About 1,200 of Ashland's 32,800 employees company-wide are Marshall graduates, Hall said.

In addition to the \$7 million for the library, Marshall is trying to raise about \$3 million to fund its academic scholarship programs, of which Gilley said the Yeager Scholars program is the most prestigious.

"We're trying to build our scholarship fund so we can continue to attract outstanding high school graduates," he said.

Ashland donated \$25,000 in seed money when the Yeager Scholars program was launched in 1986. A few months later, the company's foundation contributed \$1 million to the program. At the time, it was the largest single gift in the school's history.

The first class of Yeager Scholars was dubbed "The Ashland Class" in honor of the company's donation.

In 1990, Ashland pledged an additional \$1 million to the Yeager Scholars program as part of Marshall's \$10 million endowment and future projects goal.

Hall also served as chairman of the The Campaign for Marshall national committee, which raised \$11.4 million from October 1989 to July 1992.

## Ashland Inc. makes \$1 million gift

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — Ashland Inc. has given \$1 million to Marshall University for a proposed new library and the Yeager Scholars program.

The money will be paid to the university in five yearly installments of \$200,000 beginning next fall.

Marshall is trying to raise \$7 million more to build a \$22 million library and computer center to replace the outdated James E. Morrow Library.

The Yeager Scholars program gives four-year scholarships to 1 freshmen each year. It covers such costs as tuition, books, housing and travel abroad.

## COLLEGE FOOTBALL

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1995

# EKU reprimanded over conduct

## NCAA I-AA panel also issues fine over Kidd's absence from news conference

STAFF WIRE REPORTS

OVERLAND PARK, Kan. —

The NCAA Division I-AA Football Committee reprimanded Eastern Kentucky yesterday for unsportsmanlike conduct and failure to follow procedures after a football playoff game this year.

The incidents took place after Eastern Kentucky's 48-0 loss to Montana on Nov. 25 in the first round of the Division I-AA playoffs.

A statement from the NCAA said the championship committee found that EKV used both Montana's phone system and their own, "creating a competitive advantage."

Eastern Coach Roy Kidd also

violated administrative procedures when he failed to show up at a post-game news conference, the statement said. The committee ordered that a \$1,000 penalty be assessed against Eastern Kentucky for Kidd's absence at the news conference, the statement said.

Eastern cooperated fully with the NCAA and issued a written apology, the statement said. "We regret it. We're embarrassed that it happened," EKV Athletics Director Robert Baugh said last night. "It's certainly not the perception Eastern has put forward over the years. It was just an unfortunate situation."

The NCAA committee reviewed the incidents during a Nov. 29

telephone conference, the statement said.

Baugh said EKV coaches began the game using phone lines provided by Montana. When one of the lines failed to operate, the Colonel staff used its own lines, unintentionally surpassing the limit.

"I don't think it was a major advantage," Baugh said. "Practically, it was very little."

Baugh also said Kidd went to the game at Montana with a sore foot, and that it inflamed after being stepped on during the game. To attend the area used for news conferences, Kidd would have been forced to climb a set of steps.

"He just didn't think about the consequences," Baugh said. "His foot was hurting, but if he had to do it over, he would."

Kidd did speak to media why approached him in the EKV locker room, Baugh said.

# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1995

## Vow to boost higher education met with praise and questions

By RICHARD WILSON  
Staff Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — Gov. Paul Patton's intention to make higher education a priority in his administration struck a responsive chord among many university officials and some lawmakers yesterday, even though they still are uncertain exactly what he has in mind.

"I was really glad to see a governor coming into office saying that he wanted to be a higher education governor. We've not had that for awhile," said University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington.

"At least I heard something about higher education. Of course that's a plus," echoed Hanly Funderburk, president of Eastern Kentucky University. "Now, just exactly what the translation of that is, we'll have to wait and see."

During his inaugural address Tuesday, Patton challenged the universities to end their turf battles and become more efficient. If they do, he said, he will help find the money necessary to make them a viable part of Kentucky's future.

Robert Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, said he saw no

specific outline in Patton's comments.

"I just saw a reflection of the frustration by past governors, legislators and folks who worry about these things, about the failure of higher education to present its case that it has dealt with issues everybody's concerned about," he said.

He said these included turf protection, failure to deal with unnecessary duplication of offerings and the need to build more quality in academic programs.

Patton has been telling people privately since his election last month that he wants to be known as a higher education governor. But he has been short on detail even in those conversations, according to some who have been involved.

Patton provided no more clarity yesterday when asked for specifics.

"We're not dealing with specifics

**"Paul is a very focused person. He's going to set his mind on doing something and chart that course."**

Sen. Mike Moloney,  
D-Lexington

right now, and what I was talking about was obviously the long-range program," he said. "But we will address some of that during (the 1996 legislative) session."

Patton said he had talked with some lawmakers about his plans but added that they only discussed "conceptual things."

Sen. Mike Moloney, D-Lex-

ington, acknowledged he had discussed the issue with Patton, but he called the talks confidential and declined to say what they involved. However, Moloney, chairman of the Senate's budget committee, said he expected Patton to have a specific plan.

"Paul is a very focused person. He's going to set his mind on doing something and chart that course," Moloney said.

Rep. Harry Moberly Jr., the Richmond Democrat who heads the House budget committee, agreed.

"I think filling out of his ideas is probably needed, but I also think we'll get to that from him at some point," he said.

House Speaker Jody Richards, D-Bowling Green, said he wasn't sure what Patton plans for higher education.

But Richards, who headed a recent task force on the subject, said he welcomed Patton's apparent plans to funnel more money to universities.

"I thought he sort of issued a challenge for people to dream big dreams about the future of higher education, and he would work with them in doing that," Richards said.

During the gubernatorial campaign, Patton hinted that he wanted the state's universities, community colleges and technical schools to be more efficient. He also suggested possible strengthening of the state Council on Higher Education.

Gary Cox, the council's executive director, said council members would welcome a discussion on the agency's authority and any expectations Patton might have for it.

Morehead State University President Ron Eaglin said he could not distill from Patton's inaugural remarks any specific plans he has for higher education except that he wants "fundamental changes in the way we do our business."

Eaglin said he thought campus officials would be cooperative once they knew more about his plans.

"If the governor takes a strong position in involving us in change and if we're allowed to sit down in a forum where we could talk, I think there would be some movement in the direction he's thinking," Eaglin said.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1995

### ■ GEORGETOWN

#### College breaks ground for building:

Georgetown College broke ground yesterday for its first new academic building on campus in 30 years. The building will house the school's art department and will have classrooms, studios and an outdoor sculpture area. The 14,300-square-foot building, costing \$1.8 million, is scheduled to open in time for the 1996 fall semester. The current art building will be razed to make room for a proposed new library.



# Eager Patton gives Cabinet its marching orders

By TOM LOFTUS  
Staff Writer

FRANKFORT, Ky. — At 7:30 a.m. yesterday Gov. Paul Patton stood in front of the governor's office, sipped a cup of coffee and greeted state employees arriving for work.

"How are you? I work here, too," he joked to one worker, who seemed surprised to see the governor so early the morning after the Inaugural Ball.

"After the ball ended at 1 o'clock, some of the family went back to the mansion, and we had some of our friends over, played a little music, and we sang and enjoyed each other until about 3," Patton said. "I got up at 6, read all of the media accounts, and was here about 20 after 7. I guess I was one of the first here — the people were still cleaning offices."

Patton said he was not trying to make a symbolic display of the new administration's work ethic. He said he normally arrives on the job about 7:30, and yesterday he was scheduled to preside over the swearing-in of top administration officials in the Capitol at 8 a.m.

Patton did so, though the hastily planned ceremony was delayed until the governor's staff could scare up a podium, sound equipment and a

judge to administer the oaths to the 17 new top officials. (Franklin Circuit Judge William Graham was called and arrived quickly. It took longer to find the podium and sound equipment.)

After returning to the mansion to send off out-of-town relatives who had spent the night, Patton called the first meeting of his Cabinet. "You are

**"You are a part of the best team that has ever been put together in this state."**

Gov. Paul Patton  
to his incoming Cabinet

a part of the best team that has ever been put together in this state. It's going to make a difference," he said.

Patton said the main purpose of the meeting was to brief Cabinet members on basic state law and policy regarding things like personnel and purchasing. He also gave a pep talk, stressing that the new Cabinet secretaries work for the goals of the

entire administration, not just their own agencies.

Also during the day, Patton:

✓ Said he's reviewing the state employee smoking policy, which prohibits smoking except in designated areas. Patton, a smoker, said, "We're going to try to check exactly what the regulations are and try to accommodate the people that do smoke and those that don't. We'll develop an accommodating policy."

✓ Signed an order elevating the state Personnel Department to the top rung of the bureaucratic ladder by making it the Personnel Cabinet.

✓ Said he had not had a chance to review the disagreement during the last weeks of Gov. Brereton Jones' term over the higher salaries paid to state police officers assigned to protect the governor.

Two weeks ago, then-Justice Secretary Gene Peter changed the policy to bring the salaries of future members of the governor's security detail more in line with salaries of other state police officers. But Jones reversed that action, saying such a policy change should not be made in the final days of an administration. Peter resigned as a result.

New Justice Secretary Dan Cherry said yesterday that he hoped to address the issue quickly. "I want to hear both sides of the story" before making any decision, Cherry said.

✓ Said he has not yet seen House Democratic leaders' new plan to redraw House district lines. He said he considers redistricting "primarily a legislative matter and the constitutionality would have to be determined by the Supreme Court. It's unlikely that I would veto any (redistricting) passed by the legislature."

✓ Said that, at least for now, he will not name a liaison with the state Senate. Patton named former Rep. Leonard Gray of Louisville as his office's liaison with the House. Asked about a Senate liaison, Patton said, "We're going to leave the situation as it is for the time being. We'll address that later."

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ THURSDAY, DECEMBER 14, 1995

## UK worker dies in accident at campus building

### Lexington man got entangled in conveyor belt while shoveling coal

By BRIDGET MOUNT

HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

An 18-year-old University of Kentucky employee was crushed to death yesterday after he got caught in a conveyor belt while shoveling coal inside a building on campus.

The Lexington native was in the basement of the Peterson Services Building on South Limestone Street when he became entangled in the belt about 10:40 a.m., said UK spokesman Ralph Derickson.

"We don't know how," Derickson said, adding that the victim died immediately.

The Fayette County coroner's office was withholding the victim's name pending notification of next of kin. But UK said he was a grad-

not be affected, he added.

The University uses coal to create steam and hot water for numerous buildings on campus, Derickson said. Coal is still a cheap and effective way to provide heat and hot water, he said.

The victim's job was to shovel coal that had fallen off the belt back onto it, Derickson said. The metal, mechanical conveyor belt is about 2 feet wide and about 3 feet off the ground and dumps the coal into a hopper on the second floor, Derickson said.

Derickson said the accident is the first industrial death on the UK campus.

The coroner's office said the cause of death will not be determined until an autopsy is completed. An autopsy is scheduled today in Frankfort.

uate of Paul Laurence Dunbar High School and only started working for UK on June 26.

Another employee was working in the room when the man was killed, Derickson said. Police and the state Department of Labor were interviewing that employee yesterday to find out whether he saw the accident, Derickson said.

UK counselors were also brought in to talk to staff members who might have been traumatized by the death, he said.

The coal travels on the conveyor belt to different parts of the building, which provides heat and cooling for a large part of UK, Derickson said. Campus heating will

Dec. 15, 1995

# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 808-783-2030  
LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1995

## Real-world training at universities urged

BY JAMIE LUCKE

HERALD-LEADER FRANKFORT BUREAU

FRANKFORT — Employers want Kentucky's universities to do a better job producing graduates who can apply their knowledge in the real world, according to the third annual higher education accountability report released yesterday.

The six-inch stack of reports — including one for each of the eight universities and 14 community colleges — looks at a wide range of indicators, including some, such as passing rates on professional licensing examinations, that could be of interest to prospective students.

The information ranges from graduation rates — 37.5 percent at the universities after six years — to how many hours a week classrooms are in use — 30, which is eight below the norm established in other states.

### Get your own copy

To request a copy of a university or community college's 1995 accountability report, contact the Council on Higher Education at 1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 320, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Phone 502-573-1555. Fax 502-573-1535.

The reports, required by the 1992 legislature, are intended to track progress toward certain goals. A small fraction of the state money the institutions receive is based on their performance.

This year for the first time the reports include feedback from employers.

The Council on Higher Education hired a Louisville consultant who questioned a total of 61 business professionals from various fields in focus groups at eight locations across the state.

Overwhelmingly, they "felt that Kentucky's public universities and community colleges had lost touch with the full needs of business and industry today."

The employers stressed the need for graduates, who not only are knowledgeable in their discipline, but who can apply knowledge, write and speak well, comprehend complex ideas and be leaders. Those were part of a long list of traits that the employers said employees need in today's business climate.

Also surveyed were 2,423 graduate school alumni. The vast majority said their experiences at the universities were good or excellent.

The report found that 7.7 percent of the university undergraduates were enrolled in remedial math classes in the fall of 1992. At the community colleges, a quarter of the students seeking degrees were enrolled in remedial math.

The good news was that students who passed remedial classes and then took entry level classes in the same subject had a better success rate than students overall.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL  
• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1995

## College grads need schooling in 'people skills'

Too many graduates of Kentucky's universities and colleges lack the communication skills needed in today's business world.

That conclusion by employers in major fields from health care to public education was part of the state Council on Higher Education's annual assessment of the higher education system.

While the report said that Kentucky excels at providing access to higher education and solid training in many areas, graduates too often enter the working world lacking people skills and the ability to see the "big picture."

The employer findings were one of two new parts of the report. The other had better news: A survey of those who earned graduate degrees at seven of the state's eight public universities showed that most were pleased with the training they received in their specialty fields.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1995

## University grads lack 'people skills,' employers say

By MICHAEL JENNINGS  
Staff Writer

Employers say Kentucky's higher education system excels at providing access and solid training in many disciplines but fails to turn out people who are well-rounded and adaptable.

An annual report on the quality of the state's universities and colleges released yesterday by the state Council on Higher Education also shows that employers complain that schools fail to teach how to see the big picture and apply theories. One participant in the eight focus groups, totaling 61 employers, summarized the problem this way:

"They shove trees in your face while you're going through college. They never once tell you to start crafting your forest."

The employers, who represent such employment sectors as health care, manufacturing, insurance, agriculture and utilities, government and public education, also said Kentucky's college graduates weren't up-to-date technologically and often lack communication skills, adaptability, creativity, leadership qualities and other traits that some participants called "people skills." They said such criticisms applied to other states' graduates as well.

Employers said technology and corporate restructuring and downsizing had changed the business world and wrought a change in qualities needed by job applicants.

Roger Sugarman, the council's associate director of research and accountability, said employers thought college officials should stay in closer touch with them and "adapt the cur-

ricula to meet the needs of their prime customer, which is business and industry."

Council Executive Director Gary Cox said the feeling that graduates weren't well-rounded might reflect universities' abandonment of some course requirements.

"We've lost the coherence of general education," he said.

Louis Swift, dean of undergraduate studies at the University of Kentucky, said UK had tried to upgrade its students' communication skills by requiring two semesters of writing and one semester of oral communication and making sure that students write in all general education courses.

The employer findings were one of two new facets in the report. It is the third such report prepared under a 1992 law that calls for a grab-bag of indicators showing what students and taxpayers are getting in return for the \$300 million in tuition and \$680 million in tax revenue pumped into the higher-education system annually.

In some respects, the reporting resembles a new, separate process that will tie a portion of the universities' and community colleges' financing to their progress toward specified goals. The report also includes goals, with 1997 as the target year for reaching them, but no rewards or penalties hinge on their attainment.

The other new facet of this year's accountability report is a survey of alumni who earned graduate degrees at seven of the eight state universities. In earlier years, there were similar surveys of graduating students, undergraduate alumni, parents and clients of the schools' public-service programs.

Most graduate-degree alumni who took part in the mail survey said they were pleased with the quality of instruction, job skills gained, preparation to conduct research or analysis, access to faculty and adequacy of computing and library resources. Response rates varied from 34 percent to 49 percent.

Fitzgerald Bramwell, the University of Kentucky's vice president for research and graduate studies, called the survey results "a ringing endorsement" of the quality of graduate education in the state.

Council Deputy Executive Director Joanne Lang said the report also gave the most complete picture to date of the numbers and success rates of students in remedial courses. The findings make it clear "that we still have an under-prepared population that we need to address," she said.

At universities, of 8,969 students taking remedial math or English in fall 1992, 5,835 passed, and, of those, 2,190 took and passed an entry-level course in the subject for which they had required remediation. At community colleges, 13,050 students were enrolled in remedial math or English in fall 1992; 6,600 passed the remedial course, and 2,797 of those took and passed the corresponding entry-level course.

MORE →

Sugarman said that, for the eight universities and 14 schools of the University of Kentucky Community College system, students who took and passed a remedial math or English course were likelier than other students to pass an entry-level course in those subjects.

The report also tracks the rates at which full-time, degree-seeking freshmen make it to graduation or at least keep trying. Associate degree students were tracked for three years, starting in 1989, and baccalaureate students were tracked for six years, starting in 1988.

At the universities, the persistence rate was 64.5 percent and the graduation rate 37.5 percent. At the community colleges, 52.6 percent persisted, and 16.3 percent graduated.

The report shows that full-time faculty of all ranks at UK and the University of Louisville report work weeks of at least 50 hours, with full professors at both schools reporting an average of 56 hours. Classrooms were in use an average of 34 hours a week at UK and 31 hours a week at the U of L's main campus — compared to a recommended use rate of 38 hours weekly.

The report's format compares the universities and colleges not to each other but to their own goals and prior performance. Robert Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, said that to the extent the report fails to measure schools against clear quality standards, it "just isn't all that useful."

It's unclear whether the annual report has much impact on policy. House Education Committee Chairman Freed Curd, D-Murray, said he "wasn't real hepped" on the reporting requirement, which was sought by former Senate Education Committee

## STUDENT PERSISTENCE

For bachelor-degree students, this measure is the percentage who have graduated, transferred or still are enrolled six years after initial enrollment. For associate-degree students at universities and degree-seeking community-college students, the measure covers three years. Baselines were set in 1993 or 1994, depending on the type of student. Goals were not set for associate-degree university students; unified goals are lacking for community-college students.

Degree	Students	Rate	Baseline	Goal
<b>Eastern Kentucky University</b>				
Bachelor	2,146	60.3	61.2	62
Associate	71	54.9	—	—
<b>Kentucky State University</b>				
Bachelor	331	46.8	43.1	43.2
Associate	97	52.6	—	—
<b>Morehead State University</b>				
Bachelor	1,097	61.8	58.8	59.0
Associate	391	51.2	—	—
<b>Murray State University</b>				
Bachelor	1,183	63.6	67.5	68.3
Associate	155	49.7	—	—
<b>Northern Kentucky University</b>				
Bachelor	1,145	47.8	47.1	48.2
Associate	88	56.8	—	—
<b>University of Kentucky</b>				
Bachelor	2,951	77.5	78.1	78.0
<b>University of Louisville</b>				
Bachelor	1,972	67.2	66.3	67.0
Associate	40	60.0	—	—
<b>Western Kentucky University</b>				
Bachelor	2,515	62.3	62.5	63.5
Associate	265	51.3	—	—
<b>Ashland Community College</b>				
Associate	518	45.9	44.4	—
<b>Elizabethtown Community College</b>				
Associate	556	54.1	52.4	—

Degree	Students	Rate	Baseline	Goal
<b>Hazard Community College</b>				
Associate	289	58.1	56.1	—
<b>Henderson Community College</b>				
Associate	215	56.3	47.9	—
<b>Hopkinsville Community College</b>				
Associate	219	53	56	—
<b>Jefferson Community College</b>				
Associate	956	44.4	45.8	—
<b>Lexington Community College</b>				
Associate	636	55	57.5	—
<b>Madisonville Community College</b>				
Associate	273	53.1	48	—
<b>Maysville Community College</b>				
Associate	160	50	47.2	—
<b>Owensboro Community College</b>				
Associate	358	48.6	50	—
<b>Paducah Community College</b>				
Associate	536	54.9	52.1	—
<b>Prestonsburg Community College</b>				
Associate	502	53.2	43.9	—
<b>Somerset Community College</b>				
Associate	426	53.5	49.8	—
<b>Southeast Community College</b>				
Associate	284	50.7	48	—

Chairman Ed Ford. Sen. Walter Baker, R-Glasgow, a member of the Senate Education Committee, said legislators did "very little" with the reports.

But Sen. Nick Kafoglis, D-Bowling Green, said the accountability data should prove useful as the council and schools get deeper into the process of performance financing.

The Daily Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, Thursday, December 14, 1995

# Education commitment praised

## University officials want specifics from governor

FRANKFORT (AP) — University officials are still awaiting specifics, but they like Gov. Paul Patton's promise to make higher education a priority.

"I was really glad to see a governor coming into office saying that he wanted to be a higher education governor. We've not had that for a while," University of Kentucky President Charles Wethington said.

In his inaugural address Tuesday, Patton challenged the universities to end turf battles and become more efficient. If they do, he will help find the money necessary to make them a viable part of Kentucky's future, he said.

Morehead State University President Ron Eaglin said he could not distill from Patton's remarks any specific plans for higher education except that he wants "fundamental changes in the way we do our business."

Eaglin said he thought campus officials would be cooperative once they knew more about his plans.

"If the governor takes a strong position in involving us

in change and if we're allowed to sit down in a forum where we could talk, I think there would be some movement in the direction he's thinking," Eaglin said.

Robert Sexton, executive director of the Prichard Committee for Academic Excellence, also said he saw no specific outline in Patton's comments.

"I just saw a reflection of the frustration by past governors, legislators and folks who worry about these things, about the failure of higher education to present its case that it has dealt with issues everybody's concerned about," he said.

Those concerns include turf protection, failure to deal with unnecessary duplication of offerings and the need to build more quality in academic programs, Sexton said.

Patton provided no more clarity about his plans for higher education when asked for specifics Wednesday.

"We're not dealing with specifics right now, and what I

was talking about was obviously the long-range program," he said. "But we will address some of that during (the 1996 legislative) session."

Patton said he had talked with some lawmakers about his plans but added that they only discussed "conceptual things."

Sen. Mike Moloney, chairman of the Senate's budget committee, said he had discussed the issue with Patton, but he declined to say what they involved. However, Moloney said he expected Patton to have a specific plan.

"Paul is a very focused person. He's going to set his mind on doing something and chart that course," said Moloney, D-Lexington.

Rep. Harry Moberly Jr., who heads the House budget committee, agreed.

# Eagles eager to erase big-time bashing

BY RICK BAILEY

HERALD-LEADER STAFF WRITER

The roar of the Rupp Arena crowd is deafening, but it excites Morehead State's Mike Scrogam. He experienced it as a freshman two years ago, and he will hear it again Saturday night against Kentucky.

Teammate Marlon Witherspoon anticipates more "air time if we play right and together." He is "hyped just to play those guys."

It will be fun, declares Mark Kinnaird, another teammate. "We'll play as tough as we can," he says, "for as long as we can."

The Eagles harbor few illusions about their game against the fifth-ranked Wildcats.

**"Coach Fick schedules these games for a reason. We expect to win the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament and play a team like this in the first round of the NCAA Tournament."**

MARK MAJICK,  
Morehead State senior swingman

But they are college kids, and they can dream about winning even though it rarely happens in these situations. Most often, the underdogs take their lumps, accept the lucrative check and go home.

It happened as recently as last week to the Eagles. They lost by 58 points (third most lopsided defeat in school history) at Louisville. It happened the last two times they played Kentucky (108-65 UK in 1992, 97-61 UK in '93).

But they are college kids, and they look at the game through the eyes of their coach, Dick Fick.

"Coach Fick thrives on (the atmosphere), and I look forward to it," Witherspoon says. A senior forward-center, he hopes to play after college and says he needs the experience against top teams.

"Coach Fick schedules these games for a reason," senior swingman Mark

Majick says. "We expect to win the Ohio Valley Conference Tournament and play a team like this in the first round of the NCAA Tournament."

Junior guard Doug Wyciskalla says Fick schedules games against Top 25 teams for recruiting purposes and to prepare Morehead for the conference schedule.

"Coming out of junior college, I've not played against any team of this caliber," says Wyciskalla, an Indiana fan when he was growing up in Indianapolis. "Getting this chance makes me happy."

"Our players from Kentucky are pretty excited about it," says Majick, who is from Cortland, Ohio, and com-



## NEXT GAME

**Morehead St. at Kentucky**

■ When: 8 p.m. Saturday

■ Where: Rupp Arena

■ Records: UK 4-1; Morehead State 3-3

■ Series: UK leads 4-0

■ TV: Channel 27

■ Radio: WVLC AM-590 and WVLC FM-92.9

pares playing Kentucky to playing Ohio State.

Scrogam, the junior center-forward from Bardstown, has been the lone Kentuckian in Morehead's starting lineup so far.

"When I'm back home, people talk about how they bleed blue, and it's 'Kentucky this, Kentucky that,'" Scrogam says. "I try to play my hardest in this particular game."

The Eagles realize, too, that a better showing will erase memories of the 119-61 debacle at Louisville.

"We were laughed at around the nation," Scrogam says. "People don't think we can play against a top-notch team. We want to prove we belong in the big time."

The Eagles sensed a turnaround when they closed a 24-point, second-half deficit to four points before losing 92-85 to Marshall Friday.

"We relied on ourselves, not each other in the Louisville game," Majick says. "We came together against Marshall, in the second half anyway."

Wyciskalla blames a lack of effort in the Louisville loss. The Eagles have learned from the blow-out, Witherspoon insists.

Kinnaird isn't concerned with the Louisville game. His focus is on Kentucky.

"Kentucky will have their runs," he says. "We're mature enough to weather the storm if we keep our poise and keep playing ball."

Scrogam says, "We want to accomplish something and make people notice us."

"I'd like to upset a team like this," Witherspoon says. "We'd get noticed then. Maybe we can win if we go in with the right attitude. I will."

THE COURIER-JOURNAL  
• FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1995

## WKU president's mother, Charlotte Meredith, dies

Associated Press

BOWLING GREEN, Ky. — Charlotte Fentress Meredith, Owensboro's first policewoman and the mother of Western Kentucky University President Thomas C. Meredith, died yesterday at The Medical Center after an extended illness.

Meredith, 79, was a native of Narrows. She also was a bookkeeper at Owensboro Municipal Utilities until her retirement in 1978.

Besides her son, her survivors include a sister, Mildred Hicks of Indiana; a stepbrother, Charles Wooten of San Diego; and two grandsons.

The funeral will be 10 a.m. tomorrow at the James H. Davis Funeral Home in Owensboro, with burial in Memorial Gardens Cemetery. Visitation is 4-8 p.m. today.

Dec. 18, 1995

MSU ARCHIVES  
91A22-4-25-2

# MSU Clip Sheet

*A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University*

INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY UPO BOX 1100 MOREHEAD, KY 40351-1689 606-783-2030

The Sunday Independent, Ashland, Kentucky, December 17, 1995

## Unprepared

### State universities get wake up calls

Kentucky's universities and community colleges have received two wake up calls: One from the new governor and the other from employers.

Gov. Paul Patton devoted much of his inaugural address to higher education.

"... I challenge the institutions of higher education to throw off the shackles of the past, use the instruments of modern science, emulate the techniques of progressive businesses and change the way you transfer knowledge," he said.

Supporting the need for change is a survey of employers that was included in a report by the Council on Higher Education. Those who hire Kentucky graduates expressed dissatisfaction with how well they were prepared for the work force.

"These respondents felt that Kentucky's public universities and community colleges had lost touch with the full needs of business and industry today," said the report, released a day after the governor's speech. While graduates from Kentucky had the "book work phase of learning," they fell short in knowing how to apply theories from the classroom.

The most persistent complaint was that graduates did not have the requisite people skills, such as creativity, flexibility, leadership, the ability to listen, motivation, the ability to work with a team, and a strong work ethic — things difficult to

learn by reading a book or listening to a lecture.

The best way to judge a university's performance is by the quality of its graduates. Universities and community colleges must be able to supply employers with talented young people who have the knowledge and skills necessary to be productive, valued employees.

The employers suggested university administrators and faculty members need to get out to see the real world and how business operates. Then they need to adjust their programs to provide more practical instruction. That's sound advice.

Patton's challenge to those in higher education is an encouraging sign that real change may be on the horizon:

"I challenge you to articulate a new vision, propose a new method, show me a system more devoted to innovation than it is to turf, more concerned about the big picture than it is about its own place in that picture, and I'll work with you to find the money to do the job.

"We must have a system of higher education which is more responsive, more efficient, and more relevant to today's realities and tomorrow's needs. Our people deserve no less, and I will accept no less."

We and many employers agree. Kentuckians deserve excellence — not petty infighting — from their universities and community colleges.

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 1995

#### ■ MOREHEAD

##### University holds winter commencement:

About 550 degree candidates were honored during Morehead State University's winter commencement Saturday. Elijah M. Hogge, a former judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, received an honorary doctor of public service degree. Hogge, a former county attorney in Rowan County and now a Frankfort resident, is treasurer and board member of the Northeast Kentucky Hospital Foundation. The foundation established St. Claire Medical Center in Morehead.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

##### Morehead honors winter graduates

MOREHEAD — Some 550 degree candidates were honored during Morehead State University's winter commencement yesterday.

"It is only through hard work that we today celebrate a great victory in our lives," said student speaker Aaron Boyd Wagner, of Wheelersburg, Ohio. He received a bachelor of science degree with honors.

Elijah M. Hogge, a former judge of the Kentucky Court of Appeals, received an honorary doctor of public service degree. Hogge, a former county attorney in Rowan County, is treasurer and board member of the Northeast Kentucky Hospital Foundation. The foundation established St. Claire Medical Center in Morehead.



# 'Partners' drive makes progress

## 2 groups make big ACC donations

By BENITA HEATH  
FOR THE DAILY INDEPENDENT

ASHLAND — Ashland Community College kicked off its \$2 million Partners in Progress campaign Thursday with a boost of almost a half-million dollars from two major community foundations.

The drive is intended to raise funds for scholarship and training endowments to be

used by students and the community.

The Mansbach Foundation pledged \$250,000 to the campaign — \$235,000 of it for a scholarship in memory of Joseph and Sylvia Mansbach, founders of Mansbach Metal Co. The foundation designated the remaining \$15,000 to furnish the Walthall Reading Room that houses special collections at the ACC library.

The Ashland Foundation, the charitable arm of Ashland

Inc., gave \$200,000 to be divided between endowments to provide tuition assistance for ACC students and on-going training for the Tri-State work force.

"This really is a wonderful moment in Ashland Community College's history," Dr. Charles Dassance, ACC president, told a group of supporters at the kickoff on campus. "It is extremely gratifying to witness the level of support that comes from our community. You are helping us shape the future and we are grateful."

"Since 1938, Ashland Community College has served Northeastern Kentucky with quality educational programs and services. Our success, in large measure, has been due to the support and nurturing of many friends in the communities we serve."

Last spring the college started soliciting contributions from the community to fund three endowments and provide seed money for a student and community center on campus.

The endowments are the Teaching and Learning Endowment to offer staff extra education; the Center for Workplace Quality Endowment to help companies and small businesses upgrade workers' skills; and the Scholarship and Talent Grant Endowment to provide tuition help for students.

Ashland's contribution will go into the talent grant and workplace endowments.

The donations from the two foundations bring the amount pledged so far to \$664,228, or 33.2 percent of the total goal. The campaign will end when the goal is reached.

Other major donors honored Thursday were Ashland Federal Savings and Loan Association; Home Federal Savings and Loan Association; Ohio Valley Wholesale; National City Bank; First American Bank; First Federal Bank for Savings; the Bank of Ashland; Kelley, Galloway & Co.; Ashland Office Supply; Wilbur Chellgren; Harold E. Kelley and Robert McCowan.

"For any campaign to be successful, there must be outstanding leadership and support," Dassance said. "We have been blessed with both."

Honorary chair of the campaign is Paul W. Chellgren, president and chief operating officer of Ashland Inc. Co-

chairs are Robert C. Ball, a group vice president for Ashland Inc., and John H. Mays, chairman of the board of First American Bank.

THE COURIER-JOURNAL • KENTUCKY • SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

## Kentuckians believe state schools need more public funds

### Community colleges rate well in survey

By RICHARD WILSON  
Staff Writer

LEXINGTON, Ky. — Many Kentuckians believe the state's universities need more public funding, but they also think elementary and secondary education should be the top priority for any new state spending.

Those are among the findings of a statewide poll conducted for the University of Kentucky community college system by The Preston Group, a Lexington public-relations and research firm.

Slightly more than half of those surveyed also said the quality of education offered by the community colleges is excellent or good.

"Obviously, we are extremely pleased with the results of this survey," said Ben W. Carr Jr., chancellor of the two-year community college system. He said it showed that "not only are the people of Kentucky pleased with the work of the community colleges, but the majority also approve more funding" for higher education.

The poll surveyed adults in 690 households in which someone had voted in at least three of the last five general elections. Preston Group President Tom Preston said the survey targeted voting households to get "individuals who normally demonstrate interest in public issues."

Among the findings:

Two-thirds of the respondents

"strongly agreed" or "somewhat agreed" that colleges and universities deserve more state funding; about 18 percent disagreed.

When asked which of several areas should receive the bulk of any new state money, 46 percent listed elementary and secondary education as the top priority. After that came higher education (13 percent); health and human services (12 percent); vocational educational (9 percent); roads and bridges (7 percent); public safety (3 percent); and state parks and recreation programs (2 percent).

More than two-thirds said they would be willing to pay an additional penny in sales tax if assured the money would go to higher education.

**More than two-thirds said they would pay more sales tax if the money would go to higher education.**

About 35 percent said all work-force-type education should be offered by the community colleges; 18 percent said it should be

offered by the state's postsecondary vocational schools. The rest suggested no change or had no opinion.

Thirty percent believed the quality of programs is better in the community colleges than in the vocational schools; 14 percent believed it was better in the vocational schools.

About 70 percent said higher education is accessible to most Kentuckians; 27 percent said people in their area did not have easy access to a campus.

More than half said they believed the cost of college kept people in their areas from attending.

The community college survey — part of a larger poll done by The Preston Group — was conducted by telephone between Oct. 25 and Nov. 4. Its margin of error was plus or minus 3.7 percentage points.

# Community colleges facing time of struggle

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Kentucky's community colleges have passed through a dizzying adolescent growth spurt and straight into a full-fledged adult midlife identity crisis at age 31.

Enrollment has nearly doubled in the last decade to 43,619. Course offerings have proliferated wildly in location and subject to include more career-oriented, technical programs in 67 counties.

Now, about one-third of the students in Kentucky public higher education attend community college — yet the schools receive only one-tenth of the state higher education budget.

Many think the 14 community colleges are stretched to the breaking point and are at the heart of critical issues facing all of higher education — turf wars, duplication, financial woes, accountability.

In fact, the Council on Higher Education has endorsed giving the lion's share of any new higher education dollar increases to community colleges.

The issue clearly will be one of the most pressing facing the General Assembly, which convenes in January.

A legislative task force spent months examining all of higher education. And Gov. Paul Patton says reform of higher education will be a cornerstone of his new administration.

## Lacking Information

Few would dispute that on an individual level, Kentucky's community colleges have produced thousands of success stories — people who might not have otherwise gotten a college education.

But there are larger questions about the system's overall effectiveness in accomplishing its three missions: preparing students to transfer, offering career-oriented programs and serving business and their local communities.

Consider:

■ The Kentucky Council on Higher Education — which as its name implies is supposed to oversee all the state's institutions of higher learning — doesn't even know some key facts about community colleges, which are run by the University of Kentucky.

When council officials asked UK this fall for information on community colleges' individual budgets, President Charles T. Wethington Jr. politely but firmly refused to provide them, according to documents obtained by the Herald-Leader through an Open Records request.



Wethington

Instead, Wethington told the council to refer anyone who wanted the information directly to UK.

"That's basically been the position of UK in several respects, that they represent the community college," said Gary Cox, the council's executive director. "We're very limited with what we do with community colleges."

■ Contrary to a popular myth that community colleges are a feeder institution for UK, only about 5 percent of the people who enroll in them ever transfer to a four-year school. In 1994, for instance, a total of 2,684 students transferred from a community college to a public four-year university in Kentucky — only 760 of whom went to UK.

Even former Gov. Edward T. "Ned" Breathitt, chairman of UK's Board of Trustees, was surprised to learn those numbers from a reporter recently. He had thought the transfer rate was higher.

Community college officials point out that not all students want to transfer, which is true. But even if you look only at full-time students who say they want to transfer, only about one-third of them do.

■ Even for the students who transfer, it can be difficult. And it's sometimes easier to go out of state.



O'Hara

Southern Illinois University, for instance, welcomes students from Paducah Community College with open arms and gives them junior status automatically if they have an associate degree. They can't get that deal anywhere in Kentucky — not even from parent UK.

"It's hard to believe, but it's a fact," said Len O'Hara, Paducah's president. "It doesn't make good sense to have the situation we do."

■ Relatively few students, compared with the total enrollments, earn associate degrees, which are programs that are supposed to take two years to complete if a student takes a full load of courses.

But only 13.2 percent of degree-seeking students earn an associate degree even after three years of study, the Council on Higher Education estimates.

Community college officials say that's because more than half of the system's students attend school part-time and often drop in and out of school because of family and job responsibilities.

They point to people like Renee Ryan, 25, a Madisonville Community College student who hopes to earn her associate degree in human services next summer.

She first came to the community college in 1989, dropped out to join the Army, returned after she got out, dropped out again when she became pregnant and finally returned again.

"They call it a two-year degree, but I don't know anyone who can do it in that," said Ryan, who hopes to work as a counselor for juvenile offenders. "A lot of people here are single parents and it can be kind of hard to get through."

■ Despite years of budgets that either stayed flat or were cut, the system kept expanding. Off-campus classes are now offered at more than 100 sites in 53 counties. Adding in the main campuses, that means the system has a presence in 67 out of 120 counties.

That leaves some wondering about what that means for quality.

"There's no way I'm aware of that you can have no increase in resources and expand your services, and still come out ahead as far as quality goes," said Council on Higher Education Chairman Jim Miller.

That's one reason UK and the council propose that the legislature increase the system's budget from \$76 million this school year to \$108 million by 1997-98.

## 'Indictment on Kentucky'

■ As employers demand more computer-savvy workers, technology is sorely lacking at community colleges.

At Jefferson Community College's humanities division, 46 full-time professors and 77 part-time faculty members shared three computers. Eight more were on the way. "We have to do our work," said Wes Lites, the division chairman.



Kerley

JCC isn't alone. At most community colleges, the local high school is likely to have better computers, Internet access and technology.

"I go to middle schools, and they have real 21st-century labs — much better than anything we have," said Hopkinsville Community College President Jim Kerley. "To me, that's an indictment on higher education. It's an indictment on Kentucky, that we have let it happen."

■ One of the main reasons the community colleges were founded was to offer two-year associate degrees outside the state's universities.



McGuire

But the University of Louisville and the six regional universities now offer almost as many associate degree programs overall — 93 — as the community colleges — 108.

"In one sense, what we have is mission run amok," said Owensboro Community College President John McGuire. "We don't have a tightly focused mission."

Others see an underlying tension between the community colleges' own missions.

"The ambivalence of community colleges — are they the first step in transfer or are they vocational programs — is their greatest weakness," said John Frazer, retired president of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities.

## 'People are tired'

■ Serious concerns exist about the community colleges' relationships with Kentucky Tech post-secondary vocational schools, leading many to question whether

MORE →

## Community Colleges (Cont'd)



**Shires**

the systems should merge.

The question is one of simple economics, many say. Can Kentucky afford to keep two systems?

"It does cause duplication and unnecessary expense and difficulty in coordination and estab-

lishing the so-called seamless path of education," said James Shires, president of Maysville Community College. "Something should have been done a long time ago."

■ Community college faculty members on average earn about the same as Kentucky high school teachers. Faculty pay also lags behind what professors at other states' community colleges make, which puts the system at a disadvantage in attracting and keeping good professors.

Katy Varner, a division chairwoman at Jefferson Community College's Southwest campus, knows that from interviewing candidates for faculty jobs. "I've literally been laughed at," she said.

Breathitt, the UK chairman, says he understands the faculty members' frustration.

"We're going to be losing good people," he said.

Even if faculty members stay because they love teaching, "that's not being fair to them," Breathitt said.

■ Besides the salary issue, the community colleges are relying more and more on part-time instructors.

That saves some money up front, but the end result is that full-time faculty members have more students to advise, more students to teach and more administrative duties.



**Stebbins**

"People are tired. They're just dragging," said Elizabethtown Community College President Charles Stebbins. "All that's being demanded of them is contributing to the burnout."

■ Those issues also have contributed in large part to a faculty movement to unionize under the auspices of the American Federation of Teachers.

So far, more than 300 of the 1,150 community college faculty members have joined the Kentucky Community College Faculty Alliance, said Varner, the steering committee chairwoman.

As part of its organizational efforts, the alliance sent surveys to all faculty members, about 46 percent of whom responded.

Their opinions were bleak. Nearly half of the respondents, about 47 percent, said their salaries were poor, and an additional 39 percent rated them as just fair.

Faculty members also said they didn't have enough resources to do their jobs, with 92 percent rating work resources either poor or fair.

"The faculty see a union movement as testimony that people want to make things better," said Barbara Ashley, who teaches sociology at JCC. "There's just this spiral of trying to expand and expand with fewer and fewer resources and fewer people. We're really on the ropes."

## Questions not new

Still, the community colleges enjoy tremendous popularity throughout the state.

UK, for instance, commissioned an opinion poll that found nearly 79 percent of people surveyed gave the community colleges either excellent or good ratings.

Enrollment peaked in 1993 at more than 48,000, but has declined recently. Opinions differ on why, but they ranged from an improved economy (keeping would-be students employed) to cuts in course offerings.

"There are a lot of students who are just busting their ass to get an education," said Berry Craig, a history professor at Paducah Community College. "That's one of the things that make community colleges a special place."

Meanwhile, many experts say community colleges are the vehicles to help solve some of Kentucky's ills and train a work force that in turn would help economic development.

But even Wethington — who oversaw the community college system before becoming UK's president — concedes that many Kentuckians still don't know much about the system.

"We have a constant struggle to try to explain, even to our friends, what community colleges do," he said.

The questions that are being raised now are not new.

The 1989 Futures Commission, a task force of civic leaders who looked at the system, had issued dire warnings about funding.

"Chronic underfunding coupled with phenomenal enrollment growth threatens the colleges," the commission's final report read.

That commission, which was led by then-Gov. Bert T. Combs, also questioned what future enrollment increases would do to the system's quality. "We fear that the Community College system cannot continue to meet demands and to maintain excellence without increased funds," it said.

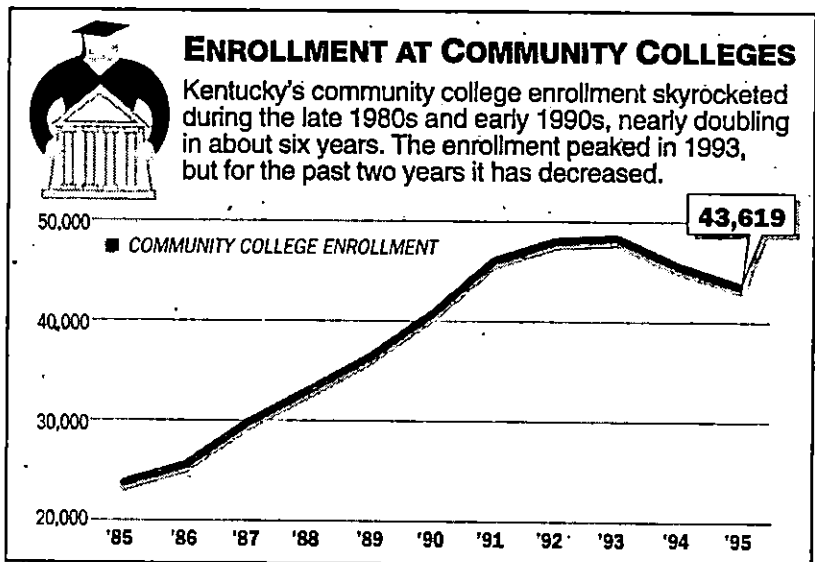
That issue will be a key one facing the reactivated Futures Commission, which is expected to come out with a report by the end of January.

"I think they need to perfect and work on things they're doing and let expansion, if any, come in later years," said William Sturgill, its chairman. "They ought to stretch the band as far as they can go, but I would agree there's a point where they reach maximum efficiency."

Jimmy Jack Miller, the community college faculty trustee on the UK board, agrees as he worries about the system's future.

"I think we're the biggest bang for the buck in higher education," said Miller, a communications professor at Ashland Community College.

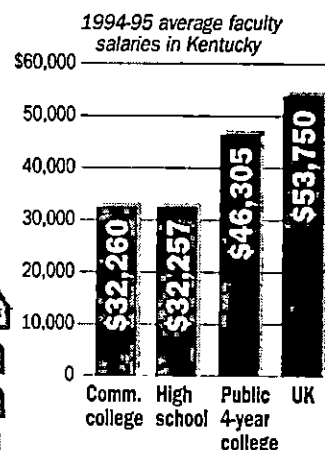
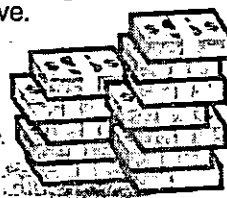
"And the biggest bang for the buck doesn't need to become a fizzle."



TIM BLUM/HERALD-LEADER

## HOW FACULTY SALARIES STACK UP

L Professors at Kentucky community colleges make about the same average salary as high school teachers. They also make far less than professors at four-year colleges. Concern over salaries is one reason that community college faculty have given for starting a unionization drive.



SOURCE: University of Kentucky community college system

TIM BLUM/HERALD-LEADER

# State residents give system high marks in survey

BY ANGIE MUHS  
HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Many Kentuckians think community colleges are doing a good job and should get more money, according to a poll commissioned by the University of Kentucky community college system.

Thirty percent of the people in the telephone poll, which was conducted in late October and early November, said they didn't have an opinion about the community colleges. Of those who did, nearly 79 percent gave the colleges good or excellent marks.

When asked whether the colleges should get more state funding, 29 percent strongly agreed and 36 percent said they somewhat agreed.

The survey, which UK released today, also found that 54 percent of respondents said UK should continue to run the community colleges, while 26 percent said the regional universities ought to have that responsibility.

The statewide survey polled 806 people in households where someone had voted in at least three of the last five general elections. The margin of error was 3.7 percent.

The survey, which was done by The Preston Group, cost about \$9,500, said Ben Carr, the chancellor of the community college system. Private donations were used to pay for it, he said.

"We're pleased that there was so much support out there," he said. "Most people see us as doing what they're asking us to do, not out there building an empire."

# 'It's never too late to learn and do better'

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

There are two Edna Blackburns.

There's the one who first timidly approached Prestonsburg Community College, hoping to earn the GED she needed to get a better job. Then there's the one who today directs a senior citizens center, takes college classes and raises a teenage daughter.

If not for community college, Blackburn says, she'd still be the hesitant woman who didn't know whether she could succeed.

"I was just so shy and bashful when I started out," said Blackburn. "But going there has helped me with so much more than I thought. I have so much more confidence in my life."

In many ways, Blackburn, 44, is the face of thousands of Kentucky community college students.

She's a single mother. She works full-time as the director of the Martin County Senior Citizens Center. She has dropped in and out of college for the last four years as she has tried to jam the demands of academics into an already crowded life.

Blackburn, who is studying social work, need only look to her

own family to know she's not unique.

Two sisters started at Prestonsburg and ended up earning bachelor's degree. Another sister also attends Prestonsburg.

"We got started later in life, but it's never too late to learn and do better with your life," Blackburn said. "The college has really changed our lives."

Like many other women, Blackburn dropped out of high school to marry young, at 17. She ended up divorced, with a daughter to support and no real skills.

At Prestonsburg's career development program for homemakers and single parents, she earned her GED. Then, with some gentle prodding from program director Jean Rosenberg, she started taking college courses.

Blackburn said she hopes to finish her community college work in two more semesters. She intends to transfer to Morehead State University, even though she's worried about the commute of about two hours from her Floyd County home.

"I want my degree so bad, but I worry about it, because it's so far to drive," she said. "I don't know what I'll do when the roads are bad."

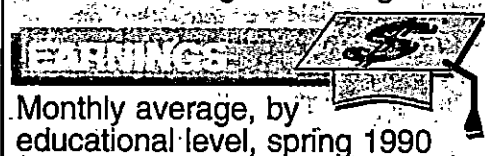
But Blackburn said she never regrets deciding to pursue college.

"I have really missed it in the semesters when I wasn't going because I just love it," she said. "It's really hard right now, trying to do it all, but I know it's going to be worth it."

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ SUNDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1995

## HIGHER EDUCATION, HIGHER EARNINGS

A college degree remains the ticket to higher earnings:



No high school diploma	\$492
High school diploma	\$1,077
College, no degree	\$1,280
Bachelor's	\$2,116
Master's	\$2,822
Doctorate	\$3,855
Professional	\$4,961

Adults with a degree beyond high school, in percent:

US	26.5%
KY	17.7%

SOURCE: 1990 Census Bureau

## EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT FOR PERSONS 25 AND OVER

Not high school graduate:

US	24.8%
KY	35.4%

High school graduate:

US	30%
KY	31.8%

Some college, no degree:

US	18.7%
KY	15.2%

Associate degree:

US	6.2%
KY	4.1%

Bachelor's degree:

US	13.1%
KY	8.1%

Advanced degree:

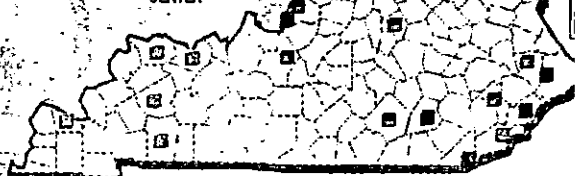
US	7.2%
KY	5.5%



## THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM

Kentucky has 14 community colleges. Some of them have extended campus centers, and all of them offer courses in other locations. Shaded counties represent counties in which a community college offers at least one course.

COMMUNITY COLLEGE  
EXTENDED CAMPUS CENTER



Community colleges: Ashland, Elizabethtown, Hazard, Henderson, Hopkinsville, Jefferson (Louisville), Lexington, Madisonville, Maysville, Owensboro, Paducah, Prestonsburg, Somerset, Southeast (Cumberland), Whitesburg, Pikeville, Cynthiana

SOURCE: Council on Higher Education TIM BLUM/HERALD-LEADER

# Council weighs whether Kentucky can support more extended campuses

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Penny Ritter gets choked up when she tells the story of how Letcher County, population 27,000, plagued with double-digit unemployment, raised \$1 million to bring Southeast Community College to Whitesburg.

"A miracle," is how she describes the transformation of a ramshackle Coca-Cola plant into an off-campus center for the college. "It was just meant to happen."

But some, including the Council on Higher Education, are questioning whether the state can afford any more miracles. The council recently ordered a temporary halt to expansions until it can figure out an answer.

"It's a question of whether you want statewide higher education decisions being made based on how much money the local communities raised," said Jim Miller, the council's chairman.

He said the council has to deal with bigger issues, like whether the state can afford to run the centers after the local communities build them.

The way higher education is structured right now, it rewards community colleges for off-campus activity.

Community colleges basically generate a need for state funding through one way: their enrollment, said Gary Cox, the CHE's executive director.

That's why offering courses away from campus actually might work out as a profit for community colleges, especially if the local town lets them use space for free, which is common, Cox said.

"It generates tuition and pushes up the funding formula," Cox said. "They're also expanding their base of influence."

As part of its moratorium on extended campuses, the council will study the need for any

more off-campus centers like ones currently proposed in Muhlenberg County and the Jamestown area.

Other high-profile projects also have gotten attention lately.

UK is poised to take over Lees College, a two-year private college in Jackson, and make it a satellite campus of Hazard Community College.

A proposal to set up a University of Kentucky engineering program at Paducah Community College, which the local community raised \$8 million to support, also became controversial earlier this year. Although it wasn't an extended campus, critics charged that it was an example of a community college overstepping its bounds.

Others simply are concerned about what they say might be an over-expansion of the community college system that now offers courses in 67 counties.

Enrollment in the off-campus courses was a major factor in the community colleges' enrollment doubling between 1985 and 1994 to more than 43,000.

"I think we ought to improve what we've got now, rather than expand," said Lexington businessman William Sturgill, who is chairman of the Futures Commission, a group of civic leaders studying community colleges.

## More opportunities better

At the heart of the debate is access, an emotionally charged issue in a state like Kentucky that has lagged behind in the educational attainment of its population.

Because thousands of Kentucky college students are adults who are tied to one place, the state can't afford not to make access as convenient as it can for most people, say expansion supporters.

The average age of a community college student, for instance, is 27.

"The more opportunities we give people to

go on and get their education, the better the odds that some day Kentucky won't be at the bottom of all those education lists," said Dennis Kirtley, the co-chairman of the Muhlenberg County effort, which has raised \$1.3 million.

A review of the colleges' most recent accreditation reports, which were done in 1990 and 1991, shows that outside teams criticized the availability of support services and library resources in several colleges' off-campus programs.

That calls into question some of the value of expansion for expansion's sake, said John Frazer, the retired president of the Association of Independent Kentucky Colleges and Universities.

"We're reaching a point now where we're using our resources foolishly," Frazer said. "You can't go willy-nilly forever."

UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr. says that critics misinterpret UK's motives.

"The effort is not to establish a lot more community colleges," he said.

UK also points to the results of a poll it commissioned last month. When asked if off-campus centers were empire building or responding to educational needs, 67 percent of those responding said UK was just trying to meet communities' needs.

People in the towns that have been affected also say that others sometimes don't understand what getting a center meant to them.

"There are so many wonderful stories you just wouldn't believe," said Ritter, a retired vice president of Whitesburg's First Securities Bank.

Cox said the council ultimately has to try to balance the need for access with the limits the state has.

"Access for access sake may not be as important as it used to be. Maybe we need more of a rifle shot than a shotgun approach," Cox said.



# Budget proposal could give colleges much-needed boost

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

**HAZARD** — Walk through Hazard Community College on a cold or rainy day, and you'll almost trip over the many students who sit on the hallway floors between classes because they have no place else to go.

Ed Hughes, the college's president, is hoping this year's General Assembly will give the college \$13.7 million for a building that was authorized in previous legislative sessions.

"We're still building the cake," Hughes said. "We're not even close to the point of adding the icing."

Across the state in Louisville, Richard Green, the new president of Jefferson Community College, has a different worry. He knows about the leaking ceilings, asbestos tiles, peeling paint and broken window shades at the college's oldest building.

"It needs a lot of work," he said. "But there are things we can't do right now."

In other of the state's 14 community colleges, the presidents are worrying about people.

Charles Stebbins, the Elizabethtown Community College president, has a pot of \$3,500 this year for faculty professional development.

Trouble is, that has to cover 83 full-time faculty — which works out to \$42.16 apiece.

John McGuire, the Owensboro Community College president, wonders how much help his at-risk students get when there are only five counselors for about 2,500 students.

"If you lose them from the community college, they're pretty much lost for good," McGuire said. "They won't be back."

Statistics compiled by the Southern Regional Education Board put Kentucky last among 15 states in per-student spending at community colleges.

"Community colleges in Kentucky are underfunded and undervalued for what they already do," said George Autry, president of MDC, a North Carolina non-profit corporation that works on economic development issues. "You see conditions that you don't see in other states."

Ashland Community College President Charles Dassance argues that states ought to emphasize the quality of education at community colleges even more because they tend to deal with students who are at higher risk of dropping out.

"We should provide them with just as good facilities and teaching as anywhere else," he said.

Funding for the community colleges will be a key issue facing the General Assembly when it convenes in January.

The Council on Higher Education has endorsed a budget plan that would give the bulk of any funding increases to community colleges, which lag furthest behind other states' averages.

If legislators approve the plan, the community colleges, which this year got just over \$76 million, would get \$95 million in operating money from the state next year. They'd get \$108 million in 1997-98.

Besides the Hazard building, the system also is asking for a \$5.8 million classroom building at Ashland and an \$11.7 million technical training center at Hopkinsville. The community college system has said it would funnel a large chunk of any increases toward salaries and computers, two areas that even supporters say are sorely lacking.

"The stretching too thin is a fact of life in the community college system," said UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr., who used to head the system. "We need an infusion of resources, or otherwise growth and development will have to be controlled and slowed."

This time, the state appears to actually have new money to divvy

up. Plus, Gov. Paul Patton said in his inaugural speech that he's inclined to give higher education more money if it can prove need.

Faculty members have proof.

Take Wes Lites, chairman of JCC's humanities division. He scavenges cast-off equipment and furniture from the University of Louisville.

"At some point, it starts to beat you down and say that you don't matter," Lites said.

# MSU Clip Sheet

A sample of recent articles of interest to Morehead State University

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LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1995

## Pact to tackle low transfer rate

### Few moving from community colleges to four-year schools

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Kentuckians think community colleges' most important mission should be preparing students to transfer to four-year colleges, according to a recent poll.

But that's not what's happening. Today, a scant 5 percent of students go on to a four-year college after leaving one of the state's 14 community colleges.

Not all students who come to community colleges want to transfer. But the vast majority of those who express an intent to transfer never do so.

### MIDLIFE



### CRISIS

Kentucky's community colleges at the crossroads

And of those who do transfer, as many as a third encounter academic roadblocks, a study by the Council on Higher Education found.

Many think a new block-transfer agreement that takes effect next month might reduce those problems.

Kentucky's problems, experts say, are not unique. In fact, one national study of transfer rates found that Kentucky's rate was higher than average.

"As bad as it looks, we're one of the best there is," said Len O'Hara, Paducah Community College president. "It's just the nature of the animal."

But others question how community colleges can be effective if they have few people transferring and few people graduating — what most people think are their two primary missions.

"It's kind of compelling," said state Sen. Joseph Meyer, D-Covington, chairman of the senate education committee. "It suggests to me that they're spending hundreds of thousands of dollars to produce a single graduate."

When leaders first started nurturing the community college movement in the 1960s, they envisioned it as a cheap way to get students started on a four-year bachelor's degree.

As community colleges sprouted up all over the state, the thinking went, more students could pursue higher education because it would be within easy driving distance.

Kentucky, though, still lags behind the rest of the country in the percentage of its population who have bachelor's degrees, ranking 48th.

"We're not making much progress, if we're not continuing that many people on," said A.D. Albright, retired executive director of the Council on Higher Education and former president of Morehead State University.

Theories abound as to why more people don't transfer to the four-year institutions.

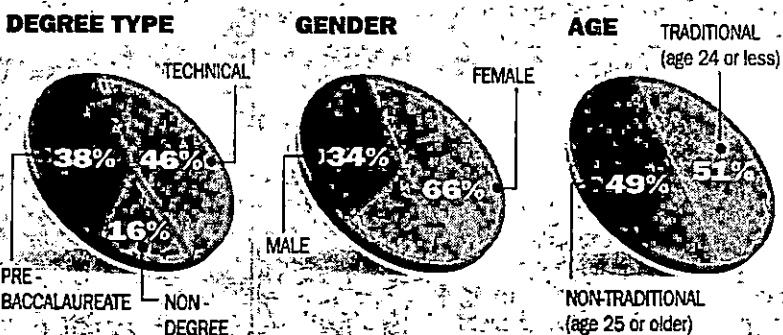
It's unclear how many people come to the community colleges with that intention. The community colleges just recently started surveying entering students about their plans.



### COMMUNITY COLLEGE STUDENTS

The average community college student in Kentucky is 27, takes classes part-time and works. Two-thirds of the students are women, and just over half are first-generation college students.

### UK COMMUNITY COLLEGE SYSTEM ENROLLMENT



SOURCE: UK community college system

TIM BLUM/HERALD-LEADER

Generally, though, most community college presidents estimated that no more than 60 percent of students list transfer as a goal.

Just under half of community college students now are 25 or older. Most work full-time, have children or both. That means they might not be able to transfer to a four-year university, even if they want to.

Carolyn Turner, a faculty member at Prestonsburg Community College, said she sees that a lot.

"I've had students who stayed five years, taking whatever course they hadn't taken," Turner said. "They want to learn more, but they're tied here and can't leave."

Some students who intend to transfer might end up switching to a technical degree program after they enroll, some presidents speculate.

"Quite a few of our people see they can get a two-year degree, go out and get a job, and make good money — as much as you can make with a four-year degree in some cases," said Jim Kerley, the president of Hopkinsville Community College.

### Some problems expected

Another major issue in Kentucky has been what happens to students when they do try to transfer.

They learn that the state's universities don't always accept the same courses for the same majors.

"It puts an end to what I call academic quibbling."

JOHN MCGUIRE  
president of  
Owensboro  
Community  
College

Sometimes it just depends on how well an adviser knows the system.

Take Melinda Wallace and Michelle Maggard.

On a November day at Hopkinsville Community College, Wallace was furious. She had just received a letter from Western Kentucky University advising her that three of her community college classes wouldn't transfer.

Wallace, a 19-year-old sophomore, said she never changed her mind about her major or her transfer destination. She blamed bad advising at the community college.

"That's going to put me at Western for 2½ years, when I should only be there for two," said Wallace, who is majoring in elementary education. "I'm just so mad right now. I took classes I had no use for and now I end up paying for it."

But across the state, Maggard had "absolutely no trouble" when she transferred from Hazard Community College to Morehead State University.

"I had a very good adviser, and I told them from the start that I wanted to go to Morehead," she said. "I'm glad I did it this way, because going to community college was kind of a springboard to higher education."

Ben Carr, the system's chancellor, said he thinks that stories like Maggard's are far more common. But he acknowledged that cases like Wallace's sometimes happened in the past.

"With thousands of students, you're going to make some errors," he said. "What we hear about are the ones who had problems."

But problems like Wallace's weren't isolated, the Council on Higher Education found. When it surveyed students in 1993, nearly one-third of those who transferred

MORE →

## Community COLLEGES

(cont'd)

from a community college reported problems.

In some cases, students find more success by just leaving the state. For instance, Southern Illinois University will accept all of a student's credits and automatically give them junior status if they graduate from Paducah Community College. No college in Kentucky offered them that deal.

Carr said that many transfer problems stemmed from universities having slightly different requirements — something that the block-transfer agreement is supposed to fix.

Charles Stebbins, the Elizabethtown Community College president, knows that problem all too well. At ECC, students who want a bachelor's degree in education have to take different courses, depending on where they want to transfer.

"We've had to prepare our students in four or five different ways, depending on what school they want to go to," Stebbins said. "That is totally absurd."

### Block-transfer agreement

That's the kind of thing that the block-transfer agreement is supposed to fix. Under the agreement, which takes effect in January, colleges agree to accept a core curriculum of up to 48 credits.

The as-yet untested agreement basically outlines lists of courses that universities will accept to fulfill requirements. Students still have to be careful to follow that list, but supporters say that having the information will help them.

"It puts an end to what I call academic quibbling," said Owensboro Community College President John McGuire. "It's a giant step forward for higher education in Kentucky."

State Sen. Tim Shaughnessy, who pushed for the agreement, said

he thinks it is a step forward. But the issue may still need more attention, he said.

"I don't think we've been as bold as we could have been," said Shaughnessy, D-Louisville.

O'Hara, the president at Paducah Community College, said he thinks the agreement might keep some of his students in Kentucky. But many will still make the hour drive to Southern Illinois, he said.

The transfer agreement "is a smart move, but we already have a better deal with SIU," he said.

Gary Cox, the council's executive director, said it wants to look at ways to get more people transferring in general.

"It's a very important public relations issue, but it doesn't have the depth and breadth of other issues," Cox said of the block transfer. "Half of our students aren't ever affected by it."

### Different ways to measure

Kentucky isn't alone in having few community college students transfer to four-year schools.

Experts don't define transfer rates by looking at the percentage of total enrollment who go on to a four-year school. Doing that, they say, "wouldn't be valid because many students never intend to transfer."

Instead, most states use a definition of transfer rate created by the Center for the Study of Community Colleges, which is at the University of California at Los Angeles.

The center figures transfer rates like this: It takes all the students entering community college in a given year who don't have previous college experience.

Then, it determines how many of them earn at least 12 credits, the equivalent of about four courses, at the community college in four years. (Nationally, only about half of the students do, said Arthur Cohen, the center's director.)

Of that number, researchers then see how many of those stu-

dents take one or more classes at an in-state, public university.

Using that formula, a study done by the Southern Regional Education Board estimated that transfer rates in its 15 states averaged 18 percent; Kentucky's 30 percent was highest.

But defining transfer rate that way means those numbers apply only to a relatively small sample of the community college population, said Faith Paul, a higher education expert.

Paul, the president of Public Policy Research Consortium, a Chicago non-profit organization that studies education, said she also questions the UCLA-generated national transfer rate of 22 percent.

"There's very, very poor data across the country in general," she said. "The database we need is just now beginning to exist."

The Council on Higher Education found that in 1994, of the 43,000 students, almost 2,000 transferred to a four year public university in Kentucky — 760 of them to UK. An additional 426 students transferred to a Kentucky independent college.

But the council doesn't have figures for those students who leave the state, something that the presidents of the seven Kentucky community colleges near a state border have criticized.

"If one of our students transfers to Marshall University or Ohio University, they're lost to our system," said Ashland Community College President Charles Dassance. "I don't think there's a good tracking system."

But Carr, the chancellor of the community college system, said he thinks the definition works.

"Regardless of whether you like the definition or not, you can compare yourself with people across the country now," he said. "Before, we were comparing apples and oranges and every kind of fruit."

LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY. ■ TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1995

# Senator faced 'frustrating' challenge

BY ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Tim Shaughnessy is an expert on the problems that students face when they try to transfer from community colleges to universities.

First, he experienced them when he was a student going from Jefferson Community College to the University of Louisville.

Then, as a state senator, he has spent nearly three years trying to figure out a way to get them eliminated.

Shaughnessy sponsored legislation in the 1992 General Assembly that led to a task force that was supposed to improve transfer between schools. In November 1993, it recommended that the Council on Higher Education develop a general transfer core.

Next month, that agreement finally takes effect.

"It's been very frustrating," Shaughnessy said. "I think a lot of people from a lot of universities just wanted me to go away."

Shaughnessy's interest stemmed from personal experience. When he was a student at JCC in 1975 and 1976, he took an English 101 class and a literature course.

When he transferred to U of L, officials there told him that his literature course meant he didn't have to take English 102.

His mother didn't believe them. She told Shaughnessy to get that promise in writing.

"She took that letter and put it in her jewelry box," Shaughnessy said. "She said, 'You're going to need this when they tell you that you can't graduate because you don't have English 102.'"

Sure enough, the university tried to block his graduation until he produced the written promise.

But the experience stayed in his mind after being elected to the General Assembly. He decided to pursue the transfer issue after attending a regional education meeting that discussed how Florida used

common course numbering among all colleges to make transfers easier.

Shaughnessy didn't expect the agreement to take as long as it did. He said he also would have liked to have seen the block transfer agreement cover more credits.

"Frankly, it's been hard to get the powers that be within higher education to buy into this," he said. "It was more complicated than I thought."

# Man who transferred grateful for a chance

By ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Bruce Mee didn't know much about what to expect when he enrolled at Hazard Community College. He didn't even realize that he had to take general education classes — not just the subjects he was interested in.

But he did know that the series of minimum-wage jobs he had held since dropping out of high school at 16 were taking him nowhere.

"I had no idea what school was. I just went and tried it," said Mee, 34. "But once I got started, I loved it."

Now, three years later, Mee is a junior at the University of Kentucky, majoring in journalism and living in a dormitory. When he gets his bachelor's degree, he says, he intends to go to the UK law school.

"Instead of looking at a McDonald's manager job in Hazard, I'm looking at a law degree," Mee said. "The community college is the only reason I'm here today."

Getting there wasn't easy. At his freshman orientation, a counselor told the crowd of about 400 people that most of them wouldn't make it to graduation. Mee vowed to be one who did.

Part of the reason he succeeded, he says, was that he signed up for "every kind of advising program they had."

"The academic part of it is only half of it," he said. "You have to learn how to be enlightened."

Once at Hazard, Mee threw himself into academics and school activities. He was student government president and editor of the

school newspaper. At UK, he has already become involved in student government and is lobbying to add a community college student to the UK Board of Trustees.

Mee said he knows that very few community college

students go on to graduate or transfer to a four-year college. Some classmates couldn't transfer for family reasons, he said, but that wasn't a problem for him because he is divorced.

"The way I see it, I can be a burden on society or an

asset to society," he said.

But no matter how few students transfer from community colleges, the state can't afford not to invest in them, he said. "It's a small number, but that one in a thousand who makes it is worth it."

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 19, 1995 ■ LEXINGTON HERALD-LEADER, LEXINGTON, KY.

# Should UK keep control of system? Debate lingers

By ANGIE MUHS

HERALD-LEADER EDUCATION WRITER

Now that the community colleges have passed their 31st birthday, some wonder if they shouldn't move out of their parent's home — or get married.

It's a familiar debate in Kentucky, which has one of the more unusual governing systems in the United States when it comes to community colleges.

Currently, the 14 community colleges are run by the University of Kentucky, which has about 24,000 students of its own. Only Hawaii has a similar setup.

Kentucky also has post-secondary vocational technical schools that fall under the Workforce Development Cabinet, even though they offer some programs that are similar to those at community colleges.

A task force on higher education earlier this month said the General Assembly should study merging those two systems. If that ever happens, the next question is who would control the new entity.

"The management of UK is significant enough without having to worry about 14 far-flung campuses," said state Sen. Joe Meyer, D-Covington, chairman of the edu-

cation committee. "I wonder how a board in Lexington can really determine how Prestonsburg or Elizabethtown or Paducah is best served."

## Respect for UK

UK, though, fervently wants to keep its community colleges, and all 14 community college presidents agree.

The university Sunday released an opinion poll that it claims supports its position. The survey, which the community colleges commissioned and paid for with private money, found that 54 percent of respondents said the community colleges should stay with UK.

However, the poll asked only whether UK or regional universities should be in charge. It did not ask whether an independent board should run community colleges, as is done in most states.

Somerset Community College President Rollin Watson called the idea of separation "crazy."

"People know UK, they respect it, they love it. The fact that we're a part of UK gives us a credibility that we wouldn't otherwise have."

UK President Charles T. Wethington Jr., who rose to the top through the community college system, said the system would pay far more administrative costs on its own than the nearly \$1.4 million it now gives UK.

"I'm convinced the people who want to make the separation arguments are not interested in the welfare of the community college system," Wethington said. "I see it doing nothing but harm."

## 'One step removed'

Even some of those who want to stay with the university say community colleges need more of an independent voice.

"UK's idea that they will speak for us is a bit like colonialism. It just doesn't work," said Joseph Anthony, an English professor at Lexington Community College who wants to stay with UK. "We've grown up now, and we can't let others speak for us if



Rollin Watson of Somerset college

we want to be heard."

UK officials don't always hear what the community college faculty or the community thinks, said Carolyn Turner, a faculty member at Prestonsburg Community College since 1965.

"There's no response from Lexington to community concerns or to the community college concerns," said Turner, a former chairwoman of the faculty assembly. "When the administration from Lexington comes in, they talk to the president and let the president show them around, and then they leave."

Community colleges, despite having one-third of the students in public higher education, are the only institutions that don't have direct representation on the Council on Higher Education.

"The council is one step removed," said Gary Cox, the council's executive director. "We don't have the community college point of view per se. We have the University of Kentucky point of view."

Even Jim Miller, the council's chairman, thinks community colleges have sometimes fared worse because they had to rely on UK to make their case.

"They're on the lowest part of the totem pole, but they didn't get much attention last spring when we looked at the funding model," said Miller, who lives in Owensboro. "What was worked out was probably disadvantageous to them."

## Wethington's Influence

When Wethington became president in 1990, many wondered how it would affect the community colleges. He had been Maysville Community College's first director and the system's chancellor.

Some think the community colleges have more visibility now.

"It's a higher agenda on the university perspective than it's been in the past," said William Sturgill, a former UK trustee and chairman of the community college Futures Commission.

But some faculty aren't so sure, given current faculty pay and other problems, said Mark Wilburn, a history professor at Jefferson Community College.

"In my opinion, he's been a disappointment, given the high hopes we had," Wilburn said.

IN OUR VIEW

# Words of praise

## 2 gifts give campaign major boost

Ashland Community College's Partners in Progress campaign has received a major boost thanks to the generosity of two contributors.

The Mansbach Foundation has donated \$235,000 to fund a scholarship in memory of Joseph and Sylvia Mansbach, founders of Mansbach Metal Co., and another \$15,000 to furnish the Walthall Reading Room at the ACC library.

The Ashland Foundation, the charitable arm of Ashland Inc., has given \$200,000 to be divided between endowments to provide tuition assistance for ACC students and on-going training for area workers.

Those gifts make up the bulk of the \$664,228 pledged toward the \$2 million campaign. The money will be

used to establish three endowments: One to offer staff extra education and training, another to help companies and businesses upgrade the skills of their employees, and the third to provide tuition assistance to deserving students.

As with all endowments, the money will be placed in trust funds with the interest going to provide the training and scholarships. Thus, the money given today will continue to meet needs for generations to come.

We commend the Mansbach Foundation, the Ashland Foundation and the other companies, businesses and individuals who have given generously to fund the Partners in Progress campaign. Their gifts are a wise investment in the future education needs of this region.

## Foundation gives Marshall \$1 million

Ashland Inc. has continued its commitment to Marshall University with another generous gift. The Ashland Foundation, the company's charitable giving arm, will donate \$200,000 to Marshall during each of the next five years.

Half of the latest gift will go to support Marshall's Yeager Scholars, a program the company has supported since its creation. Ashland donated \$25,000 in seed money when the Yeager Scholars program was started in 1986 and donated \$1 million to the program a few months later. It pledged another \$1 million to the scholarship program in 1990.

The other half of the latest gift will go toward the construction of the new library

that Marshall President J. Wade Gilley promises will be on the "cutting edge of information technology." Ashland's gift brings to \$2.5 million the amount of private gifts pledged toward the library. The university hopes to have \$7 million pledged before construction begins this summer.

There is a good reason why Ashland Inc. and its employees have given some \$4.5 million to Marshall since 1979: The university has supplied the company with more employees than any other school. The gifts are Ashland's way of thanking the university for being an excellent source of employees and of providing the funds to help it continue to produce quality graduates.